MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MARCH 1982

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- On 27 March Iranian forces launched the third phase of their current offensive, routing three Iraqi brigades and killing, wounding or capturing all their personnel, a communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced. So far 4,375 new prisoners, including veteran commanders and the coordinator of the Iraqi Popular Army, have been counted, and 70 enemy tanks and personnel carriers were seized intact, the communique said. Iranian forces eliminated Iraqi troops from 600 sq km west of Shush and Dezful, removing the cities from Iraqi artillery range, and captured strategic hills on the southern bank of Reqabiyeh River, sensitive points surrounding radar sites and the Andimeshk-Dehloran road, according to Tehran radio.

In the fourth phase of the offensive which began on 28 March, Iranian forces destroyed the 421st and 96th Iraqi Infantry Brigades, killing, wounding or capturing all their personnel, and eliminated Iraqi presence from the Dasht-e 'Abbas, Emamzadeh 'Abbas and 'Eyn Khosh sectors, another communique carried by the radio announced. Since 21 March, 14,034 prisoners have been evacuated from the fronts, the communique added. The total number of Iraqis captured in the current offensive is nearly 18,000, over 6,000 of whom have already reached Tehran, according to Tehran radio. Iranian pilots downed 2 Iraqi aircraft, and antiaircraft units shot down 2 MiG's, bringing to 18 the total of Iraqi aircraft downed since 21 March, a communique broadcast by Tehran radio claimed. A subsequent Iranian communique carried by the radio asserted that another 3 Iraqi planes were shot down along the Dezful front on 29 March. On the other hand, an Iraqi military source claimed that Iraqi planes and antiaircraft defenses downed 3 Iranian Phantoms on 29 March, INA reported.

Iraqi forces are in full control of the Shush-Dezful front, according to a 26 March Iraqi General Command announcement cited by INA. The statement said 2,237 Iranians were killed on this front and 21 in other areas, while admitting 97 Iraqi dead. On 27 March Iraqi forward units foiled a widescale Iranian attack in the Dezful and Shush sectors, killing over 1,000 enemy troops, a field commander cited by INA said. Fierce clashes were continuing, with Iraqi units confronting fresh enemy reinforcements, according to a communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. Iraqi forces killed 1,563 Iranians and lost 85 men, while 22 Iranian tanks were destroyed and one enemy helicopter and one drone were downed, the communique added. The Iranians also lost over 1,000 dead and 48 tanks on 28 March, according to INA. In the course of denying Iranian claims, Iraq's Air Force commander said that between 19 and 28 March, Iraqi planes and helicopters carried out 562 and 245 combat missions, respectively, losing only 2 fighter planes and 5 helicopters, INA reported.

Khamene'i Remarks, Mediation Denial -- No other government or nation in the world but Iran has the right to be concerned about Iraq's future or feel responsible for it, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i told visiting Iraqi clergymen in remarks reported by Tehran radio. He also said Iran cannot be indifferent toward Iraq's affairs since the two countries share a long border, are related by race, tradition and religion, and Iraq's future affects Iran's future. The future Government of Iraq should be Islamic and popular, Khamene'i continued, and the line of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni will be Iraq's future line.

Iran categorically denied rumors concerning a cease-fire or mediation by India, IRNA reported.

Husayn Activities, Islamic Delegation -- Iraqi President Saddam Husayn returned to Baghdad after a visit to the southern fronts, having stressed to Iraqi troops that they will certainly retaliate against the enemy for killing harmless prisoners of war, INA reported. In a message to an Islamic seminar in Colombo, Husayn reiterated Iraq's call for a cease-fire and for settling the dispute by peaceful means that will safeguard legitimate rights, INA said. Meanwhile, the Sri Lankan minister of transport announced that both Iraq and

Iran have agreed to receive a delegation from the international seminar on the universality of Islam for the purpose of discussing the war, INA said.

Foreign Volunteers -- It was disclosed in Baghdad that Muslim volunteers from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh as well as Arab volunteers from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Morocco, Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti and Mauritania are fighting alongside Iraq, INA reported. Over 3,000 Egyptian volunteers and 250 military experts have been sent to participate in the fighting, according to Arab diplomatic sources cited by the London magazine AL-MAJALLAH.

Israel

West Bank Mayors -- The Military Government prevented dismissed Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf from leaving Jericho, according to Jerusalem radio. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said Khalaf rejected the decision to place him under house arrest. Most of the West Bank mayors signed a joint statement calling on the world public and the Israeli people to stand up against the Israeli Government's measures aimed at "annexing" the occupied territories, Jerusalem radio noted.

Policy, Remarks on Occupied Territories -- The government decided in its weekly Cabinet session that Israeli policy in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will continue without impediment, according to a government statement carried by ITIM. The government guarantees peace and all possible aid to the Arab inhabitants who honor the law and maintain quiet, the statement said, but no acts of violence or disruptions of law and order will be tolerated. Meanwhile, MA'ARIV reported that Israel adopted its tough policy against PLO leaders in the territories in order to preempt a secret PLO plan to cause civil unrest in May, shortly after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai.

In remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio, the head of the Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria, Professor Menahem Milson, said he will shortly appoint local people as mayors of Nabulus, Ramallah and Al-Birah. He said the 1976 municipal elections were not democratic because they were subject to terrorism, intimidation and bribery.

According to a 28 March radio report, Israel takes a grave view of Jordan's threats to confiscate property belonging to village league members. Israel will retaliate against Jordanian property in Judaea and Samaria if the Jordanians carry out their threat, the radio said.

Israeli Arab Strike Call -- The National Arab Committee for the Defense of Land has called for a general strike of Israeli Arabs on Land Day, 30 March, Jerusalem radio reported. The Union of Israel's Arab Students and the Committee of Arab Local Councils supported the strike call, the radio said, but 10 Arab Council heads in Galilee opposed it.

Yamit Withdrawal -- Southern Command Commander Yahim Erez informed Yamit settlers that they must quit Yamit by 31 March or face evacuation by the IDF, Jerusalem radio noted.

PLO

The Voice of Palestine recently carried a number of statements denouncing Israeli policy toward the Palestinians, including a Fatah Foreign Relations Department statement appealing to national and progressive forces throughout the world to denounce Israel's "bestial repression" in the West Bank and Gaza and to support the Palestinian uprising there. One of the PLO military officials visiting Riyadh over the weekend said that with sizable assistance from the Arab world the Palestinians in the occupied territories could declare a civil insurrection for at least 6 months, AFP reported. According to another AFP report, the Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee, meeting in Amman, decided to pay compensation to Palestinian residents of the West Bank and Gaza "as victims of Israeli repression."

Egypt

Internal Security -- About 200 persons taken into custody under the emergency law will be released in implementation of President Husni Mubarak's directives, MENA reported. After noting the detention of 30 fugitive members of the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation, an AKHBAR AL-YAWM article summarized by MENA reported the discovery of another organization affiliated with the society.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations -- Egypt is not willing to accept any Israeli presence in the disputed Tabah area because it will becloud mutual relations, cast doubt on Israel's intentions and give a weapon to those interested in undermining the peace process, President Mubarak wrote in his 23 March message to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, according to Jerusalem radio. The message made clear Mubarak's wish for an Israeli declaration that the Sinai withdrawal would be completed on schedule and expressed concern about recent West Bank and Gaza developments, the radio said. After delivering Begin's reply to Mubarak on 28 March, Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason said the withdrawal from the Sinai will be carried out according to the peace treaty's stipulations, but he refused to elaborate on the content of Begin's letter, Jerusalem radio reported.

The Egyptian-Israeli treaty must be implemented regardless of circumstances, but the Egyptian people would be shocked if Israel annexed the West Bank, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the Lebanese paper MONDAY MORNING in an interview reported by Cairo radio. 'Ali expressed the hope that conditions in the West Bank will not deteriorate to a point that would make negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians impossible.

Lebanon

Security Situation -- The Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion in east Beirut on 26 March, AFP reported. The bomb, which was placed in a movie theater in the Armenian quarter of Burj Hammud, killed 2 people and injured 15 others. The radio also reported that a Fatah military force entered the southern township of Jba' on 27 March.

Sarkis Tenure -- President Ilyas Sarkis affirmed in a newspaper interview that he will not renew or extend his term of office, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Saudi Arabia

Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz said in an interview with Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH that his country's quarrel with Iran concerns not only the Iran-Iraq war, but also Iran's designs to dominate the Arab Gulf states, starting with Bahrain and ending with all the states in the region, KUNA reported. While Saudi Arabia wants good relations with Iran, he said, irresponsible actions will be met with the appropriate response.

Iran

Citing ETTELA'AT, AFP reported that troops killed 15 counterrevolutionaries in West Azarbayjan after the rebels had attacked an army base, killing 9 soldiers. However, the clandestine Voice of Iran radio claimed that nationalist combatants killed 117 revolution guards in recent fighting in the area.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 060 *29 March 1982*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Higher Committee Meets Under 'Arafat 27 Mar [VOP] A 1
'Arafat Message to Palestinians in Occupied Land [VOP] A 1
PLO Statement Supports West Bank Uprising [VOP] A 3
Fatah Appeals to Progressive Forces for Support [VOP] A 4
Arab League Council Issues Statement on Meeting [INA] A 4
Palestinian Writers, Journalists Hold Forum A 6
'Arafat Address [VOP] A 6
Statement on West Bank [VOP] A 7

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Minister Denounces Israeli 'Acts of Violence' C 1
[AS-SIYASAH 26 Mar]
AR-RA'Y AL'AMM on 'New American Insult' C 1

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Condemns Israeli Measures C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Palestinian Official Received by King Khalid C 2
Meets With Defense Minister C 2
Interior Minister on Relations With Iran [KUNA] C 2
Minister Urges Arab Support for Palestinians C 3
Press Condemns Israeli Actions in Territories C 4
Islamic Conference Reaffirms Moro Front Support [AFP] C 4
Chatti Asks ICO To Protest Israeli Repression [KUNA] C 5
Islamic World League Condemns Israel's Actions C 5

UAE

Ruler Reiterates Stand on Islands, Gulf Unity C 5
AL-FAJR Calls for End to Iran-Iraq War [24 Mar] C 6
President Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi C 7
Briefs: Budget for 1982; Swiss Economic Delegation; C 7
Loan to Senegal Basin

PDRY

'Ali Nasir Muhammad Postpones USSR Visit C 8
Foreign Minister Returns From Ethiopia C 8
Briefs: Presidium Decree on Oil C 8

YAR

Syrian Prime Minister Reportedly Cancels Visit [SUNA] C 8

EGYPT

Abu Ghazalah Leaves for U.S. With Message D 1
Washington Envoy on Visit D 1
Defense Minister Abu Ghazalah on New Weapons D 1
Defense Minister Threatens To Resign Over Leak D 2
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 23 Mar]
Assembly Speaker Urges Strengthened Armed Forces D 3
Air Force Celebrates Arrival of First F-16's D 3
British Defense Minister Praises Cairo Talks D 3
British Pledge Tank Works, Communications System D 4
Israeli Envoy Delivers Begin Letter to Mubarak D 4
'Ali on West Bank in MONDAY MORNING Interview D 5
Cairo Radio Comments on Sinai Withdrawal D 5
AL-JUMHURIYAH Sees No Obstacle to Withdrawal [28 Mar] D 6
AL-AHRAM Says W. Bank Events Favor Extremists [27 Mar] D 7
Cairo Press on Arab Ties, West Bank Events D 7
Ghali Returns to Cairo, Makes Statement D 7
Sudanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo D 8
Attends Talks D 8
Meets With 'Ali D 9
Meets With Mubarak D 9
Returns Home D 9
Minister of State for Religious Trusts Appointed D 10
AKHBAR AL-YAWM Reports Detention of Dissidents [26 Mar] D 10
200 Emergency Law Detainees To Be Released D 10
Haykal: As-Sadat's Assassins Perceived as Heroes D 11
[Beirut MONDAY MORNING 22-28 Mar]
Court Issues Legal Reasons in As-Sadat Case D 12

IRAQ

Hammadi Comments on Attempts To End War E 1
[London DAILY TELEGRAPH 26 Mar]
Muslim, Arab Volunteers Reported Fighting Iran E 1
Armed Forces Command Issues Communiques E 2
Communique No 657 E 2
Communique No 658 E 3
'Revolutionaries' Blow up Pipeline in Lebanon E 4
[Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution]

JORDAN

Jordanian-Palestinian Committee Meets on W. Bank F 1
Compensation Payments [AFP] F 1
Work Stoppage F 1
AD-DUSTUR Comments on Milson's Remarks [27 Mar] F 2
AD-DUSTUR Editorial on West Bank Mayors [26 Mar] F 3
Al-Yarmuk Force Departs Amman for Iraq F 3
Syria Denys Entry to Jordanian Funeral Delegation F 4
[JORDAN TIMES 29 Mar]
Husayn Receives U.S. War College Delegation F 4

LEBANON

Sarkis Will Not Renew, Extend Term of Office G 1
[Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo]
Chamber Speaker Seeks 'Constitutional Transition' G 1
Al-Wazzan Asks Al-Jumayyil To Relinquish Power G 1
Haddad Criticizes Al-Wazzan's Remarks G 2
Military Discusses Deployment on Sannin Heights G 2
Palestinian Reinforcements Fortify Positions G 2
VOL Reports Fatah Force Entered Jba' 27 Mar G 3

Beirut Theater Explosion Kills 2, Wounds 20 G 3
Group Claims Responsibility G 3
Information Minister Views West Bank Situation [Paris] G 4
'Arafat Addresses Bulgarian Delegation [VOP] G 4

SYRIA

Soviet Union To Begin Arms Shipments 5 Apr H 1
People's Assembly Cable to Security Council H 1
Golan Arabs To Continue General Strike H 2
Damascus TV on Jordanian Security Measures H 2
Damascus Radio on Jordanian Political Support H 2
'Arafat Eulogizes Late Sultan Al-Atrash [VOP] H 3
Al-Asad Receives Lebanese Nasirites 27 Mar H 3

ISRAEL

Sharon To Make Proposal on Arming of Settlers I 1
Cabinet Says it Will Continue West Bank Policy I 1
Cabinet Sharply Attacks Broadcasting Authority I 2
Cabinet Debates, Issues Resolutions on W. Bank I 2
Peres Criticizes Government's West Bank Policy I 3
Views Early Elections I 3
Ben-Porat May Decide Fate of Likud Government I 3
[HA'ARETZ 28 Mar]
Shahal, Ben-Porat Comment on Coalition Talks I 4
Cabinet Reportedly To Discuss Ben-Porat Request I 4
Alignment To Vote Against Budgetary Proposals I 5
Telem Reaches no Decision on Budget Vote I 5
Discovery of PLO Plan Prompted W. Bank Moves [MA'ARIV 28 Mar] I 5
Extension of Law to W. Bank Not Being Considered [MA'ARIV 28 Mar] I 6
W. Bank Mayors Say Territories To Be Annexed I 6
'Relative Quiet' in W. Bank; AL-FAJR Banned I 6
Military Governor Confines Khalaf to Jericho I 6
Khalaf Reacts [VOP] I 7
Deposed Nabulus Mayor Asked To Remain at Home I 7
Nabulus Military Government Warns City Workers I 7
Galilee Arab Councils To Ignore Strike Call I 8
Jordan Warned on Confiscation of Property Threat I 8
Ben-Elisar Defends Government's W. Bank Policy I 8
Defense Minister Says PLO Will Be Overcome I 9
Shamir Rejects U.S. Pressure on Security Policy I 9
Prime Minister's Adviser Comments on Arab Strike I 10
ANSA Reports LA REPUBBLICA Interview With Frayj I 10
Peace Now Movement Criticizes Begin Remarks I 11
Sason Delivers Begin Message to Egypt's Mubarak I 11

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Leaders Arrive in Nouakchott for Sahara Summit P 1
Algerian President [APS] P 1
Libya's Jallud [Tripoli] P 1
Chad President [JANA] P 1
Presidents Address Opening Session 28 Mar P 1
Mauritania's Haydala [Nouakchott] P 1
Mali's Traore [Nouakchott] P 3

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bulgarian Delegation Arrives for Economic Talks Q 1
Observers Sent to Chad at OAU President's Request Q 1
Briefs: Agricultural Agreement With Cuba; Q 1
Bendjedid Meets Soviet Envoy

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Calls For Support for W. Bank Q 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Attends Naval Commissioning Q 2
Nicaragua's Ortega Sends Message, Asks Support Q 2
Farmers Hold Meeting With Polish Delegation Q 3

TUNISIA

Opposition Groups Issue Statement on Freedoms Q 3
[LE MONDE 24 Mar]

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Message From PDRY Counterpart R 1
Eritrean Resistance Groups To Meet in Tunis [AFP] R 1

KENYA

Chadian, Indonesian Delegations Arrive 28 Mar R 2

SOMALIA

Economic Agreement Signed With Romania R 2

TANZANIA

Nyerere Suspends All New Development Projects [AFP] R 2
Tanzanian Party Paper on West Sahara, OAU Unity [MZAIENDO] R 3

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Rawlings Says CIA, French Plotting Against Him [AFP] T 1

LIBERIA

G. Baccus Matthews Appointed To Head Cabinet T 1

NIGERIA

Further Reportage on Yugoslav President's Visit T 2
Museum, Port Toured T 2
Talks Conclude T 2
Speeches Made at Banquet T 2
Trade Agreement Signed T 3
Communique Issued T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Says Peace Talks Could Be Adjourned U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Armscorp Commandmant on New Artillery Piece U 2

ZIMBABWE

Government Uncovers S. African 'Spy Ring' U 3
HERALD Calls for Arrest of Joshua Nkomo [AFP] U 3

HIGHER COMMITTEE MEETS UNDER 'ARAFAT 27 Mar

NC271334 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1245 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] The higher committee formed by the Executive Committee concerned with the popular uprising of our people inside the occupied territories held a long meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. The higher committee reviewed all aspects of the situation, both our masses escalation of their revolution inside the occupied territories against the Zionist repression and terrorism and the follow up steps necessary on all levels and arenas. The committee discussed the Palestinian working paper which will be submitted to the Arab foreign ministers meeting which will be held on 30 March.

The higher committee further reviewed the Security Council's discussions on the uprising in our occupied territories. It further discussed other contacts which are taking place and measures which are being considered in light of the developments both on the Palestinian level inside and outside the occupied territories and on the Arab and international levels.

'ARAFAT MESSAGE TO PALESTINIANS IN OCCUPIED LAND

JN271810 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1646 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, to "the Palestinian masses inside the occupied territories" -- date not given, live or recorded]

[Text] Our kinfolk in the steadfast furious homeland; my brothers and sisters in every city, village and camp on the beloved soil of Palestine; masses of this uprising that will continue until victory:

Our kinfolk, our beloved, you are continuing your great and mighty uprising, thus passing through one of the most critical and important stages of our national and pan-Arab struggle. You are presenting an epic of heroism and glory to our people and our nation.

Your revolutionary steadfastness and noble pride have transformed the uprising into a legend of glory and an epic of heroism that have frightened the enemy and confused all his equations. The entire world, oh kinfolk honors and admires your uprising. The world's respect for your popular struggle and revolutionary determination is increasing. The whole world admires your firm confrontation and march toward the achievement of the great national objective: the liberation of Palestine, the liberation of Jerusalem and the raising of our banners high over every inch of the homeland.

Your glorious struggle has imposed itself on the world. The result is that the whole world is now expressing solidarity with your struggle and its support for you in different forms. It is no coincidence, kinfolk, that your mighty uprising is now being discussed at the most importnant and supreme world forums. Our cause is being discussed now at the UN Security Council as a significant and important world issue. This is the fruit of your struggle and sacrifices.

Oh kinfolk and beloved ones in the steadfast furious homeland, oh masses of the continued uprising until victory, the enemy attempted to impose its will and designs by force. The arrogant enemy thought that with the help of imported might it might impose its will on you by means of repression, murder and terrorism. The enemy thought it would be able to silence our people's escalating uprising and to liquidate their constant, just and national rights. Yet your great steadfastness and brave decision to launch a comprehensive confrontation destroyed the enemy's illusions. Your steadfastness forces on the enemy the will of our steadfast and revolutionary people, the owners of the right, the owners of the land, those who determine the future.

The determination of movement is no longer in the hands of the fascist military clique. The arms of repression, the tanks of terror and the troops of the invaders can no longer frighten our people who can make their own decisions now and prove to the entire world that the decisions are made by the people, our Palestinian people, the salt of the earth.

Yes, my brothers and sisters, you are the decisionmakers. Our people in the homeland and outside unanimously support this. Our people are committed to the PLO and will fight within its framework until we achieve our national and just rights which constitute the fundamental pillar of peace and stability in this region -- a peace that will be established based on the recognition of the Palestinian people's constant rights, including their right to repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of our independent state on our national soil, whose capital city will be holy Jerusalem.

If the Zionists and their imperialist overlords try to ignore the Palestinian truth or disavow the Palestinian people's national and constant rights, then they must realize now more than ever before that the Palestinian revolution -- stemming from its responsibilities to our people, our Arab nation and just cause -- will not remain silent in the face of this excessive criminal Zionist-imperialist design against our people inside the homeland.

The world must clearly realize that the situation in the entire region is volatile because of this terrorist, repressive, criminal and fascist enemy. The world must know these facts, particularly the states that back this Zionist terrorism practiced against our people, nation, our just national rights and the issue of peace in our region.

Our kinfolk, our beloved, our masses in the West Bank, in Gaza, in Galilee and in the south, we are neither alone in the face of this imperialist-Zionist onslaught nor weak as the enemies think. This just cause is ours. It is our right which is being supported by the overwhelming majority of the world's states, peoples and progressive and democratic forces that believe in the peoples' right to determine their national destiny, to achieve their independence and practice their national sovereignty.

Our enemies are isolated in this struggle. They have nothing in their hands but the means of repression and guns. They will lose. Their arms and repressive means will fail when faced by the peoples' will because the latter is stronger and is destined to achieve victory.

Greetings to all of you in every part of our furious Palestinian land; greetings to you kinfolk in the Golan, in Galilee, the triangle and the Negev. You have proved to the entire world that the enemy cannot separate one part of the homeland or the people from the other part. Your militant solidarity has foiled the enemy's plot. Your unity with the masses in the West Bank and Gaza and your cohesion with your might and victorious revolution have perplexed the enemy. Greetings to you my brothers and comrades, the mayors and the rest of the brothers in the various popular and national organizations and groupings.

Heartfelt greetings to you brothers in every spot, in every camp, village and city in the beloved homeland. Heartfelt greetings to you Brothers Bassam, Karim and Ibrahim and all the other brothers in Gaza, the West Bank, Galilee, Golan and the rest of our occupied homeland. Greetings to those who are stubbornly leading the mighty uprising of their people. Greetings from all of us here in the revolution to all of you. Greetings from your Arab masses. We pledge, oh streadfast heroes, that your revolution's banners will continue to fly high in the skies of Palestine, the Arab world and the rest of the world until we raise this banner over our liberated Palestinian land. Keep going forward, together, until victory. It is revolution until victory. Your Brother Abu 'Ammar.

PLO STATEMENT SUPPORTS WEST BANK UPRISING

NC271552 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1448 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Statement issued on 27 March by the PLO Executive Committee and secretaries general]

[Text] The uprising of our great people has entered its 10th day. It is becoming more inflammable and wider in scope in confronting the Zionist repression. Our people with all their forces and factions stress their rejection of the civil administration plan and their determination to continue the uprising and the open general strike until the full realization of the aims and demands of our people and their national institutions.

While continuing their duties in mobilizing the resources and potentials to secure the widest support and backing for the great uprising, the Executive Committee and the secretaries general emphasize the following:

1. A greeting of pride and admiration to the heroic masses in the Galilee, the triangle and the Negev who manifested the unity of our people and their struggle everywhere by participating in the strikes, demonstrations and all other forms of struggle. We are confident that the continuation of this course of struggle will perfect the siege around the enemy's plan and will lead to the victory of the aims of the valiant uprising.

2. The national stand is demonstrated in the continuation of the general open strike and in the unity of the stand of all the national institutions and organizations throughout our occupied homeland in response to the will of our people to continue the confrontation, no matter how long it takes or how heavy the sacrifices may be.

3. The masses of our people and their trade unionist and popular organizations bear a great responsibility today in carrying out the widest popular moves to support the courageous uprising, which is being launched by our masses in the occupied territories, and to secure the most comprehensive Arab and world support for this valiant struggle against the Zionist enemy's terrorist and criminal measures.

4. All the Arab parties, organizations and forces are urged today to express in various forms their commitment to and support for the struggle of occupied Palestine, which is the primary issue of the Arabs, and to resist the overt U.S. collusion with the crimes of the Zionists against our people.

5. All peace-loving forces in the world and all those who reject terrorism and the imperialist and racist suppression of the peoples' freedoms and their rights are today urged to join the ranks of the democratic forces in the world which expressed through demonstrations and various forms of solidarity their support for the uprising of our people and their denunciation of the crimes of the occupiers.

Our great people in the occupied homeland: March forward always. In the name of your brothers along the lines of fire with the enemy and all the masses of the Palestinian people everywhere, we assure you that your valiant struggle is today raising high the name of Palestine and that the crimes of the enemy will not go unpunished. The entire world stands in all reverence and admiration of the mighty uprising. The hour of victory and of the rising of our free and independent homeland, with Jerusalem as its capital, gets nearer with each passing day.

The PLO Executive Committee continues to follow up all aspects of the situation to confront the enemy's repressive measures and counter them, particularly the measure which involved the dissolution of the Al-Birah Municipal Council and the dismissal of the strugglers Bassam ash-Shak'ah and Karim Khalaf. It is a revolution until victory.

[Signed] The PLO Executive Committee and the secretaries general of the Palestinian resistance groups

FATAH APPEALS TO PROGRESSIVE FORCES FOR SUPPORT

NC290835 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0708 GMT 29 Mar 82

[Appeal addressed by Fatah Foreign Relations Department to the "national and progressive forces in the world" -- date and place not specified]

[Text] Comrades: The Fatah Foreign Relations Department extends its most sincere greetings and appreciation to you. While valuing with great pride your constant international solidarity with our Palestinian people's struggle and armed revolution, it interests us, during this serious period of our people's life and revolution, to put you in the picture as to the latest developments and violent and bloody confrontations in our occupied land:

In the wake of the repressive measures taken by the Zionist occupation authorities by closing down the Bir Zayt University and dismissing the mayors of Al-Birah, Nabulus and Ramallah in an attempt to impose civil administration on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and after our unarmed people have strongly confronted all the practices and measures carried out by the occupation, the confrontation took a decisive turn as represented by the enemy thrusting his armored military forces and arming the Israeli settlers to liquidate the popular uprising. As a result of this, many martyrs fell and many others were wounded. This violence is likely to escalate in a bestial manner in the coming days.

Through this violent, bloody military campaign, the occupation authorities seek to crush our people's resistance to occupation and its schemes and to destroy the Palestinian masses' rallying around the PLO, which is the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, preparatory to declaring the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip just as Jerusalem and the Golan have been annexed.

In view of these decisive and serious developments to which our national struggle is being subjected, we appeal to you to take the steps which you deem appropriate to denounce the bestial repression which is being exercised by racism and to support our valiant people's uprising to halt the Zionists' arbitrary measures and foil their conspiratorial schemes, which they are trying to impose on the masses of our people. We are confident your move of solidarity will, as it always has, strengthen the spirit of our solidarity in struggle and be a major boost for our people's just struggle. It will also be an effective instrument for putting pressure on the occupation authorities to halt their violence and recognize our national rights.

Ours is a revolution until victory.

[Signed] Abu Hatim, the official in charge of foreign relations in the Palestinian National Liberation Movement, Fatah

ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL ISSUES STATEMENT ON MEETING

JN270829 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Tunis, 27 Mar (INA) -- The Arab League Council has hailed the splendid heroic stands of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Arab territory and their continuous uprising against the Zionist enemy and its aggressive expansionist designs.

The council called on all the Arab countries to pool their resources and devote their material and moral capabilities to backing the steadfastness of the Arab people in the occupied territory to enable them to continue to firmly resist the Zionist occupation authorities.

In a statement issued at the conclusion of its ordinary session at an early hour here this morning, the council condemned the repressive and terrorist methods which the Zionist authorities are using against the Arabs in the occupied territory. The council stressed that the disbandment of municipal councils and national institutions and organs in the occupied Arab territory is only another step by the enemy to entrench the occupation and apply the civil administration conspiracy to our Arab people by force and terrorism. Such a situation, the council said, could lead to a conflagration in the entire region, threatening world peace and security.

The council strongly condemned those countries, headed by the United States, which still give assistance to the Zionist entity. The council considered such assistance a hostile act against the Arab nation and its vital interests and an encouragement to the Zionist enemy to continue with its aggressive expansionist policy.

The council also decided, after 3 days of meetings, to refer the draft amendment to the Arab League Charter to the meeting of the Arab foreign ministers which will prepare for the resumption of the 12th Arab summit conference, so the necessary decisions can be made for it.

The council also called on the Arab countries to continue their efforts to keep the UNRWA budget as part of the UN budget and to insist that that United Nations and its specialized agencies cover the deficit in the UNRWA's budget.

The council stressed the Arab states' determination to resume the meetings of the joint higher political organs for Arab-African cooperation. The council decided to hold a meeting of the Arab side to the permanent committee before the joint meeting in Dakar.

The council expressed the Arab states' concern over developments in South Africa and the attempts of the racist regime there to obstruct the implementation of the UN Security Council's resolutions concerning the independence of Namibia. The council expressed its full support for the Namibian fighters and the OAU in their rejection of the proposals made by the states of the liaison group concerning the electoral system, proposals which detract from the constitutional rights of the majority.

The council also condemned the South African regime's recurrent attacks on the African confrontation states and asserted Arab support for these states in defending their national sovereignty.

The council also condemned the existing collusion between the racist regimes in South Africa and occupied Palestine. It called for an effective confrontation of the danger threatening the Arab and African nations as a result of the increasing cooperation between these two regimes.

The council decided to convene an extraordinary session at the Arab League permanent representatives' level to discuss the negative results on Arab-European relations in case the Council of Europe's Political Committee meets in occupied Jerusalem, to coordinate with the Jerusalem committee of the Islamic Conference Organization on this issue and to study the possibilities of boycotting the members who participate in this meeting while drawing the attention of European governments to the negative results that this will have on a Arab-European dialogue.

The council urged Arab countries in Asia to attend the ILO meetings and to coordinate their stands, whether the governing body or within the Asian group, to prevent the Zionist enemy from joining this group.

The council decided to open an Arab League office in Athens as soon as possible. The council also urged member countries to appoint their representatives to the meetings of the joint Arab projects committee entrusted to discuss these projects in implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions and to ask the Secretariat General to set a new date for the committee's meeting.

The council decided to invite the joint Arab scientific council for the use of energy for peaceful purposes to an emergency meeting to review the agreement on its foundation so it will be in harmony with the many developments which have taken place in the nuclear energy sphere.

The council decided to permanently blacklist foreign vessels which transport Jewish immigrants to Palestine or smuggle Arab oil into occupied Palestine. The boycott of such vessels will not be lifted regardless of the documents submitted by the current owners of the vessels.

The council urged Arab countries which have not yet established regional boycott offices or have not ratified the unified boycott law to establish such offices and ratify this law.

At its final session, the council adopted a series of administrative, financial, legal and cultural decisions.

PALESTINIAN WRITERS, JOURNALISTS HOLD FORUM

'Arafat Address

NC261646 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1424 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Speech delivered by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, at a forum held by the General Federation of Palestinian Writers and Journalists on the occasion of the "uprising of the Palestinian and Arab people in the occupied lands" -- date and place not given, recorded]

[Text] I tell you, in the name of the heroes in the Golan, in the border strip, in Palestine and in Sinai, that this Arab nation will not kneel down. In this Arab time, the stones mentioned by my Brother Zayn al-'Abidin [not further identified] are making modern Arabic history and winning victory for our Arab nation and the great Arab future, whether the sultans and rulers want it or not. This is the will of our nation, our masses, our revolutionaries, our strugglers and our free men. It is a revolution until victory. [applause]

My brothers, at this time we really need to be like these heroes in the Golan, who have until this moment -- despite the arrest of their women -- refused to carry Israeli identity cards. You have seen the uprising in this occupied land.

I still remember that Sa'd Haddad and all the Israeli Army have until now been unable to impose a simple order on any village leader in the border strip. Such are our people. This is the true essence of this sacrificing people, my brothers.

I say this, my brothers, because we are really in need today, more than at any time before, of a conscientious stand. I am talking to the writers and poets of my Arab nation, and not the writers and poets of the sultans. Therefore, I place on you a historic responsibility, because you are the ones who write and will write history. Histroy, my brothers, is now being written in letters of fire and light. History is now being written with stones. History is now being written on the basis of facts -- the child confronting the tank; the Arab David confronting the American Goliath in its Israeli form. This is the new picture, its magnificence and glory. Our people are walking with dignity under the banner of the revolution. This is the epic, and this is the miracle, my brothers.

Therefore, my brothers, in the name of these masses and in the name of this heritage and civilization, I place a historic responsibility on you.

We are now at a historic turning point. At one time it was said that our Arab nation had no choice but to surrender. Some went to Camp David and others -- more than those who went to Camp David -- plotted in the dark. As you regrettably know, there are many As-Sadat-like people who did not go to Camp David. I say, my brothers, there is a new history at this time.

When As-Sadat went to Jerusalem and reached agreement with whoever they are, under the protection of his American master, he was asked: How are you going to force the people in the occupied land. He replied: The Palestinian people are in my pocket. At that time, I said this was not so. The people inside the occupied land are our time bombs with which we challenge this tyranny. Indeed, our betting was correct. We placed our bet on the masses, and they placed their bet on surrender and humiliation. Our betting was correct, my brothers.

If Mu'in [nor further identified] allows me, I say the following poem to those martyrs: If I fall, you take my place, my comrade in struggle; carry my weapon and don't be afraid of my blood flowing from the wounds; I did not die, I still call you to arms.

I say this, my brothers, and address my words to those who embody all the glory and dignity of our Arab nation. I tell them that we are proceeding on this genuine revolutionary path. We are not only charting the future of Lebanon, the Golan and Palestine. We are also charting and, indeed digging, this deep tunnel with our fingernails. We are digging the tunnel for our stream which will impose its will on this area -- not the will of Begin, Sharon, Reagan, Haig or any such tyrants in the world. The tyrants are doomed to disappear. This land has the bones of our forefathers and will have the bones of our children's children. This land is Arab and will remain Arab, Arab, Arab. It is a revolution until victory.

Statement on West Bank

NC261816 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1458 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Statement issued by Palestinian, Lebanese and Arab writers and journalists on 26 March, read by Muhammad Kashfi [nor further identified] -- recorded]

[Text] We Lebanese, Palestinian and Arab writers, journalists and intellectuals, meeting in the hadquarters of the Palestinian writers and Journalists Federation, declare to Arab and international public opinion our absolute support for the upsurge of our people in occupied Palestine and the Golan and our absolute comdemnation of the annexation decisions and of the suppressive measures adopted by the occupation authorities.

We declare our rejection of the dismissal of the mayors who were elected by the people, particularly in Al-Birah, Nabulus and Ramallah and before that in Hebron and Halhul. We affirm that the purpose of the dismissal of the mayors, the annexation decisions and the savage suppression of the people involves serious Zionist goals. The foremost of these goals is seeking the annexation of more occupied territory to the State of Israel and seeking, in particular, the annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. These goals also include the creation of an alternative leadership to the PLO that will be prepared to yield to the wishes of the occupation authorities and their measures against the Palestinian people's interests and against their national and pan-Arab rights for repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of their independent Palestinian national state.

We put on record that this Israeli policy is being exercised within the framework of applying the U.S. Camp David policy, which aims at imposing imperialist domination over the entire Arab region and which resorts to setting up military bases and to spreading out the Rapid Deployment Forces in several Arab areas to implement some sort of direct colonialist occupation. The implementation of this U.S. policy is being carried out in collusion between the rulers of Washington and of several Arab capitals who pretend to oppose the policy of Camp David but then implement it clause by clause.

A real support for the upsurge in the occupied territories and a real confrontation of the U.S. policy of dominations calls for the following actions at the Arab level:

1. Pressuring the Arab regimes to use their oil, finances and economic influence against the states that support Israel, provide it with arms and defend it in international lobbies and try to free Israel from international isolation; in addition, demanding the confrontation and steadfastness front states initiate practical measures to contain the influence of U.S. interests and those of its allies.

2. All Arab nationalists, individuals, organizations, movements and parties pressuring all Arab regimes to bring about democratic freedoms, particularly freedom to establish popular organizations, freedom of opinion and freedom of the press, because the atmosphere of freedom and democracy will enable the masses to use their energy to prepare to confront the Israeli danger. This will also open the way to building regimes socially and politically cohesive and subsequently to making them capable of steadfastness, confrontation and fighting the enemy with conviction, faith and determination to achieve victory.

We put on record that the current events in the occupied territory are not only endangering a part of the Palestinian or a part of the Syrian peoples but they also involve wider and broader dangers. There is a danger threatening Lebanon through the repeated Israeli declarations on preparations to wage a war to occupy southern Lebanon and to control the waters of the Litani River. A few days ago, Israel established a settlement on Lebanese territory, thereby extending the colonization policy to a new occupied Arab territory.

There is a danger threatening every Arab capital. The Israeli Army's participation in the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force and the fact that this army is considered the striking force of these forces in the Arab areas is mainly for protecting the oil wells in the interest of U.S. domination.

Subsequently, we, the writers, journalists and intellectuals, declare that support for the upsurge in the occupied territoriy does not require a handful of money every now and then, inasmuch as it requires a national policy in every Arab capital against the U.S. influence and against subservience to the colonialist states.

We demand that our fellow writers, journalists and intellectuals, in particular, pressure their governments to adopt clear stands against the Israeli policy and in favor of the Palestinian people, instead of the present stances which are characterized by hesitation and indifference toward the occupier and the oppressed people. The present stances are ultimately encouraging the occupation, the terrorism and the suppression of the people's freedom.

We greet our fellow writers and journalists in the occupied territory, particularly those in detention, who have been prohibited from writing or under house arrest. We urge writers and journalists to seek and work for their release.

KUWAIT

MINISTER DENOUNCES ISRAELI 'ACTS OF VIOLENCE'

GF271119 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 26 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Kuwait yesterday denounced the oppressive and arbitrary measures the Israeli occupation authorities are continuing to practice against the defenseless and innocent citizens in the occupied territories.

'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs and acting foreign affairs minister, described the occupation authorities' dismissal of Nabulus and Rammalah Mayors Bassam ash-Shak'ah and Karim Khalaf from their posts as a continuation of the oppressive and repressive polices of these authorities.

Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn saluted "our Arab people in the occupied territories who are confronting the oppressive campaigns and acts of violence while they are defenseless."

The minister drew the world's attention to what the innocent citizens there are receiving at the hands of heavily armed military forces. He also called on friendly and peace-loving countries that uphold human rights to adopt practical measures to repel the enemy authorities and preserve Arab human rights in the occupied territories.

AR-RA'Y AL'AMM ON 'NEW AMERICAN INSULT'

LD281206 Kuwait KUNA in English 1044 GMT 28 Mar 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Mar (KUNA) -- AR'RA'Y AL'AMM on the American policy towards the Arabs [words indistinct] American Secretary of State Alexander Haig avoided or refused to meet with a delegation representing the Arab ambassadors in Washington who had prepared a memorandum on the Palestinian uprising to present to the U.S. secretary. Haig claimed he was too busy and referred the ambassadors to his deputy Walter Stoessel.

"Because the memorandum contained specific questions about the American stand toward the Palestinian uprising, Haig avoided to meet the Arab ambassadors and left it to his assistant to inform them that he would relay to the secretary of state their memorandum.

"Even on that occasion, Washington did not hesitate to insult us. The problem, however, lies within us and not in the U.S. because until now we have not been convinced that the U.S. is not the [word indistinct] to seek justice or moderation from. It is the one asking us to moderate while it is practicing extremism is disdaining us and in liquidating the Palestinian people.

"The U.S. considers any call for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the creation of a Palestinian state to be a radical call that should be abandoned. Washington is doing this because we always seek solutions from it even after its obstruction of U.N. Security Council resolutions against the Israeli brutality.

"We do not expect any Arab reaction to the new American insult because if the Arabs were in a position to react they would have done so on the day when the Zionist state was established as the American behaviour was against us since that time."

OMAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS ISRAELI MEASURES

GF271550 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official spokesman has stated that the Sultanate of Oman condemns Israel's arbitrary measures against Arab citizens in the occupied West Bank. These measures completely contravene human rights and UN resolutions, which protect the freedom of citizens living in occupied regions.

The spokesman indicated that those measures are within the framework of the hostile Israeli policy that always seeks to kill all chances for peace in the region. The spokesman stressed that these practices will only increase tension in the Middle East. The spokesman urged the international community to bear its responsibilities and to work to curb the irresponsible Israeli behavior.

The spokesman noted Israel's decision to dissolve the municipal councils in the West Bank and stressed that this is part of the continuing Israeli provocations against the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

The official spokesman lauded the courageous resistance the Palestinian people are waging in the occupied Arab territories and said: "This uprising is decisive proof of the importance of giving the Palestinian people the right to self-determination." He added that peace in the Middle East will not be achieved unless those rights are guaranteed for the Palestinian people.

SAUDI ARABIA

PALESTINIAN OFFICIAL RECEIVED BY KING KHALID

LD281538 Riyadh SPA in English 1401 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 28 Mar (SPA) -- HM King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz today received Khalil al-Wazir [words indistinct] Abu Jihad deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces and a member of Fatah Central Committee.

The audience was attended by prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy premire and commander of National Guard.

Abu Jihad arrived here yesterday on a several days visit to the kingdom.

Meets With Defense Minister

LD271122 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Mar (SPA) -- The minister of defense and aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, met this morning with the deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolutionary forces and member of the Fatah Central Committee, Khalil al-Wazir, who is currently visiting the kingdom at the head of a delegation of the Fatah military command. A number of issues of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH IRAN

LD280932 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 28 Mar (KUNA) -- In a statement published here today, Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz accused Iran of changing from "gendarmes for the Gulf region into a terrorist working to destabilize its states." He warned Tehran that any action it commits against the Gulf states "will be met with the necessary response."

In an interview with Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH, he said that although "we extend our hand to the Iranian people and we want to have good relations with them in order to ensure the stability of the whole region, irresponsible actions will be met with the appropriate response." He added that Iran, "which used to hate the title of regional gendarme, has become the terrorist of the region and has destabilized it" after the incident in Bahrain.

He explained that "the quarrel with Iran is not just over the current war between Iraq and Iran, it is over Iran's designs to dominate the Arab side opposite the Iranian shore, starting with Bahrain and ending with all the states of the region. The trend is to create regimes sympathetic to Iran, as though the allegiance of the citizens of this region were to an ideology and not to their homeland.

He noted that "Iran now has training camps where adolescent deviationists, who think that ideology comes before the homeland, are being trained." He stressed that the Shi'a sect in Saudi Arabia is loyal to the homeland and not to its ideology. He warned "that when these feelings change, the situation changes. The homeland is for everyone. We do not accept treachery."

He expressed his belief that "the Iranian designs are not for a mere war between Iran and Iraq, for there are abnormal conditions and goals that have historic dimensions." He said Iran does not wish to establish "equal relations" with Saudi Arabia despite the insistence of the latter, for "it believes that the countries of the region will return to it the way the islands in the Strait of Hormuz and other Arab territories did."

MINISTER URGES ARAB SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS

LD271356 Riyadh SPA in English 1211 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Mar (SPA) -- Information Minister Dr. Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said today the recent Israeli moves of establishing village associations in the occupied West Bank have exposed the Zionist intentions of ultimately annexing the West Bank.

In a statement published in daily 'UKAZ, Dr. 'Abduh Yamani strongly condemned the role of "suspicious element" collaborating with the Zionist enemy.

Dr. 'Abudh Yamani observed, "Israeli reprisal acts and violations are not merely a challenge to the Palestinian will but a naked threat to the will of the whole world."

Dr. 'Abduh Yamani reaffirmed the kingdon's full support for the Palestinine Liberation Organisation, which is considered by the kingdom as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

The information minister noted the kingdon wished for collaboration and cooperation between the PLO and the leaders of occupied West Bank and considered it as a blessed step for the salvation of Arab lands from the yoke of the Israeli colonization.

He deplored the non-existence of a joint Arab action at a time when "Israel is escalating its efforts for imposing its plans and will on the people of occupied Arab lands."

He called upon the Arab states to shoulder their responsibilities toward the vital issue of Palestinian people, "who will not tolerate any bargains or compromises."

He warned against the prevailing differences and rifts among the Arab states and called on them to pool all their potentials and forces for countering the Zionist dangers in the region.

PRESS CONDEMNS ISRAELI ACTIONS IN TERRITORIES

LD271352 Riyadh SPA in English 1204 GMT 27 Mar 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Mar (SPA) -- AR-RIYAD, AL-JAZIRAH, 'UKAZ and AL-MADINAH deal with the revolt of Arab citizens in West Bank and Gaza Strip against the occupation forces of Israel.

AL-JAZIRAH felt the U.S. sympathy with the Palestinian leaders in the West Bank has demonstrated "an American undeclared opposition and rejection for the Israeli recent move for annexing West Bank and Gaza Strip."

AL-MADINAH vehemently criticised the American policies which differ from region to region. "It is a constructive sign to note President Reagan's declaration of support to observe March 21 as a day of solidarity with the Muslim people of Afghanistan, while it is deplorable to notice the contradicting U.S. policy in the Middle East region, although the Palestinian people are facing the similar situation of usurption of their rights and lands by the Zionist entity."

The paper wondered, "how President Reagan will convince the people in Afghanistan that he is sympathising with them, while the American weapons used by Israel are killing their brothers in Palestine.

The paper disclosed the American defence of human rights is a lie and held President Reagan responsible for the Israeli acts of genocide against the Palestinian people.

Meanwhile 'UKAZ called upon the Arab states to extend every possible support and assistance to the Palestinian people in their just struggle against the aggressive Israeli enemy. The paper called on the Arabs not to depend entirely on the U.N. and its resolutions which are decisions taken for non-implementation or actions amounting to mere splashing of few drops of ink on the paper.

Dealing with the same subject, AR-RIYAD noted "the uprising comes at a time when the Arab world is trying to achieve complete unanimity and unity in the absence of the international effort [words indistinct] Palestinian problem.

ISLAMIC CONFERENCE REAFFIRMS MORO FRONT SUPPORT

NC272056 Paris AFP in English 2045 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 27 Mar (AFP) -- The Islamic Conference Organization today reaffirmed its recognition of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] as "representing the Moslems of the Philippines."

The organization, which represents Moslem countries in Asia, the Middle East and Africa, said it continued to give support to MNLF leader Nur Misuari.

In a statement to Agence France-Presse, the Organization's secretary general, Habib Chatti, said that his grouping's position remained unchanged and consisted of insistence on "the strict application in its form, letter and spirit of the Tripoli agreement."

That agreement was signed in 1976 under the aegis of the Islamic Conference between representatives of President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines and the MNLF.

The agreement foresaw a modus vivendi between the two sides and a measure of autonomy for the Philippines' Moslems.

Mr Chatti's declaration came in reaction to reports in Manila that the Islamic Conference was dropping its support for the Moro movement. Both Mr Marcos and MNLF leader Misuari, who lives in exile in Libya, conferred here last week with the Islamic Conference secretary general.

CHATTI ASKS ICO TO PROTEST ISRAELI REPRESSION

LD271402 Kuwait KUNA in English 1029 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 27 Mar (KUNA) -- The Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Organization Habib Chatti Saturday called on the 40-member ICO to launch a protest campaign against the Israeli repressive practices in the occupied Arab territories.

In messages sent to the leaders of the ICO member states, Chatti criticized the U.S. for its military and economic support to Israel and called on West European countries to help decrease tension in the occupied Arab territories.

Seven Palestinians have so far been murdered by the Israeli soldiers in the uprising which began last week following the dismissal of Al-Birah Mayor Ibrahim at-Tawil then the firing of the Nabulus and Ramallah mayors Bassam ash-Sahk'ah and Karim Khalaf.

The U.S. should be aware of the dangerous consequences of its support for Israel, Chatti said adding that this would threaten its interests in the Islamic states.

He added that the interests of the West European countries are also being threatened by the explosive situation in the region.

ISLAMIC WORLD LEAGUE CONDEMNS ISRAEL'S ACTIONS

LD271434 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1405 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Mecca, 27 Mar (SPA) -- The Islamic World League has condemned the Israeli authorities' repression of the Muslim Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Arab territories.

In a statement issued today, the league denounced the repressive measures against the Arab inhabitants and the unjust and oppressive measures Zionist forces are carrying out against children, women, defenseless youths and the aged who are facing the worst conditions in the shadow of the tyrannical Jewish occupation.

The league lauded the heroic steadfastness of theArab inhabitants. It said that this represents the true spirit of resistance which does not die in a people which want a noble and dear life.

In the name of the Islamic peoples and organizations in the world, the league stressed its rejection of these repressive methods, which are far removed from humane methods recognized by the whole international community and by which the Zionist enemy seeks to annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip just as it annexed the Golan.

UAE

RULER REITERATES STAND ON ISLANDS, GULF UNITY

GF280702 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0615 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 28 Mar (WAKH) -- Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah, has said his country will not compromise or change its stand on the issue of the three islands Iran is occupying. Greater Tumb and Lesser Tumb belong to the Amirate of Ra's al-Khaymah.

In a statement to the Saudi newspaper AL-YAWM published today, his highness said: "The three islands are an Arab right on which there can be no discussion. Iran's rulers know this better than others. However, no contact on this issue has been made between them and us."

His highness described the Saudi peace plan as a great effort that was proposed after long thought to find a just solution to the Middle East issue. He called on those who oppose the plan to manifest their opposition in another plan or propose a practical alternative to find the proper solution and to take our region out of the crisis which has been worsening for more than 30 years.

His highness called on the GCC countries to seriously try to fulfill the interests of the region's peoples and to implement the resolutions the GCC countries have adopted in the service of the region's sons in order to counter all threats surrounding it. The Ra's al-Khaymah ruler said Saudi Arabia has a major role to play in promoting Gulf cooperation because it is known for its wisdom and far-sightedness on various issues.

Shaykh Saqr said the gravest thing that the Gulf region faces is division. He said: "Our unity in the Gulf is the only way to confront all threats and ambitions."

Shaykh Saqr said the UAE has been able to overcome all mistakes in its federation process thanks to its belief in and awareness of the inevitability of the common interest of the UAE people. He said the temporary constitution was enacted for a certain time and is meant to enhance our federation process. This constitution is no different from a permanent constitution in most clauses. Some amendments have been made in order to cope with the new situation in the UAE.

AL-FAJR CALLS FOR END TO IRAN-IRAQ WAR

GF270546 Abu Dhabi AL-FAJR in Arabic 24 Mar 82 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The grave escalation of the Iraqi-Iranian war at this sensitive time for the region and Arab nation constitutes a major threat not only to particular countries but to the entire region. It also makes the region vulnerable to unfathomed and unpredictable devastation and chaos.

We had hoped the Iranian Government would respond to the peace efforts that have been exerted for such a long time. We had also hoped it would respond to the proposals made by the Islamic Good Offices Committee and to Iraq's repeated offers to end the war.

We had also hoped neighboring Iran would respond for the sake of the Iranian and Iraqi peoples and for the sake of the entire region instead of continuing the war and carrying out attacks in which young people are lost and more blood is shed without any justification.

The problem is not so complicated nor its solution so difficult or impossible. The peoples' dignity is preserved when there is no fighting. Indeed, responsibility calls on the Iranian Government to respond to the Islamic Good Offices Committee's efforts so that the Arab people and the Islamic countries can devote themselves to countering the Zionist attack against the region's territories and peoples.

Much as been lost and the Iranian and the Iraqi peoples have lost many young men. The economies of both countries have been gravely affected while imperialist superpowers are happy over what is happening. The proof of this is that we have not seen any of them moving to end this war.

The countries of the region are still developing and are trying to achieve something for their peoples and make use of the wealth God has bestowed on them. It is better for us to develop and progress instead of waging war, which causes devastation, kills everything and destroys what we have accomplished. We can say that a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran will not be humiliating or a sign of weakness and defeat. Rather, we sincerely and responsibly say that it will be a brave decision and a mark of strength and pride. It will be an expression of the wisdom, reason and commitment to the tolerant Islamic faith by the leadership which will make it. Who, then, will take the initiative?

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM AL-QADHDHAFI

GF282025 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1940 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 28 Mar (WAKH) -- UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a message from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the uprising of the occupied West Bank citizens and developments on the Palestinian issue.

The message was received by Surur ibn Muhammad, head of the president's office, during his meeting here this evening with 'Ali Mahmud, the Libyan ambassador to the UAE.

It has been stated that the Libyan leader's messages to the leaders of Arab states call for offering all possible material resources to the Palestinian resistance and the citizens of the occupied West Bank and Gaza who are confronting Zionist terrorism.

BRIEFS

BUDGET FOR 1982 -- The UAE cabinet today approved the draft general budget for 1982 which amounts to 22,595 billion dirhams. Revenues are expected to amount to 20,275,610,000 dirhams, thus showing a deficit of 2,283,890,000 dirhams. The draft budget will be discussed by the Federal National Council. [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Mar 82 GF]

SWISS ECONOMIC DELEGATION -- Abu Dhabi, 27 Mar (WAKH) -- Sa'id Ghabbash, UAE minister of planning, today met with a Swiss economic delegation led by (Fon Charner), director of the economic department at the Swiss Foreign Ministry. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations, joint development projects, and the possibility of Swiss participation in a number of industrial projects in the UAE. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1225 GMT 27 Mar 82 GF]

LOAN TO SENEGAL BASIN -- The UAE Government signed an agreement with the organization of the Senegal Basin today. The UAE will loan 259 million dirhams to the organization to finance two dams on the river. The loan is to be repaid within 30 years with a grace period of 10 years. [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1745 GMT 28 Mar 82 GF]

PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD POSTPONES USSR VISIT

EA281926 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] An authoritative source announced today that the official working visit to the USSR which Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly and chairman of the Council of Ministers, was scheduled to make toward the end of March has been postponed to a later date, to be agreed to by the two sides. The source informed Aden News Agency that the postponement is the result of an agreement between Democratic Yemen and the USSR.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM ETHIOPIA

EA271542 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Summary] Foreign Minister Salim Salih Muhammad returned to Aden on 26 March from Addis Ababa after a short visit to Ethiopia. While there he handed a message to Mengistu Haile Mariam from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, concerning the latest developments in the region and ways of strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

BRIEFS

PRESIDIUM DECREE ON OIL -- Aden, 28 Mar (ANA) -- 'Ali Nasir Muhammed, secretary general of the presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today issued the presidium's decree regarding the endorsement of oil exploration, investment and extraction in the PDRY. The first article of the decree stipulates the endorsement of the agreement of oil exploration, investment and extraction in the PDRY made between the petroleum and minerals corporation and the Brazilian company Petrobras Internacional S.A. (Braspetro) on 29 January 1982 and signed in Aden. The remaining articles of the decree charge all concerned officials, each in their own capacity, with implementing the rules included in the agreement and with working accordingly beginning the date of its issue and publication in the official journal. [Text] [Aden ANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 28 Mar 82 LD]

YAR

SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER REPORTEDLY CANCELS VISIT

JN251534 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] San'a', 25 Mar (SUNA) -- It was announced in San'a' today that Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm's planned visit to the YAR has been cancelled. The reason for the cancellation of the visit was not disclosed.

ABU GHAZALAH LEAVES FOR U.S. WITH MESSAGE

NC261932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1922 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar (MENA) -- Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah left Cairo today for Washington carrying a message from President Husni Mubarak to U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Washington Envoy on Visit

NC262314 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2258 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Washington, 26 Mar (MENA) -- Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal has said that Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah's visit to the United States comes within the framework of the periodic contacts that are constantly taking place between Washington and Cairo in light of the strong bilateral relations that require that views be exchanged.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah is scheduled to meet with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig on Monday.

An American source has told the MENA correspondent in Washington that arrangements are being made to hold meetings between Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah and a number of U.S. officials. He also said that contacts are taking place to arrange meetings between Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah and members of the Senate and House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee.

DEFENSE MINISTER ABU GHAZALAH ON NEW WEAPONS

NC231629 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 23 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) -- Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah has stated that he intends to visit some European states, foremost among which are Italy and Austria, in the middle of this year to bolster military cooperation between Egypt and these states.

Abu Ghazalah added that two new submarines entered the Suez Canal yesterday on their way to the naval base in Alexandria to join our other naval combat formations. The two submarines, which are being navigated by Egyptian crews, made a long sea journey crossing more than 5,000 [nautical] miles. Crossing this long distance constitutes the best training in the world for a submarine crew.

Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah made this statement today following the approximately 1-hour meeting he held at the Defense Ministry with British Minister of State for Defense Lord Trenchard. The meeting was attended by Minister of State of War Production Dr Jamal as-Sayyid.

The Egyptian Defense Minister further said that the first shipment of Canadian Buffalo military transport planes, which Egypt has bought, arrived in Egypt a few days ago. The first group of eight U.S. F-16 planes will arrive in Egypt on Thursday and will be flown by Egyptian pilots. The U.S. antiaircraft Hawk missile batteries will arrive in Egypt next month.

Abu Ghazalah said that all the main weapons Egypt has purchased from the United States within the framework of the 1980-81 loan will actually reach the armed forces by the end of June.

Abu Ghazalah said that cooperation with Britain involves war production and the acquisition of certain types of British weapons and British military missions.

He added that yesterday the first barrel of a 122-MM gun entered the production line in the new Egyptian factory for the production of heavy military equipment. He said this was done in cooperation with the British. He added that this means that Egypt has actually started manufacturing heavy artillery.

The minister added that there are other aspects of cooperation with the British particularly on military equipment. This includes a 122-MM gun on a tracked armored vehicle so it can become a self-propelled gun.

DEFENSE MINISTER THREATENS TO RESIGN OVER LEAK

PM241533 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic [illegible] Mar 82 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Cairo Bureau Report: "An Argument Between the Government and the Opposition Reached a Point Where Abu Ghazalah Threatened to Resign"]

[Text] During yesterday's session of the People's Assembly there was an argument between the Egyptian Government and the opposition. At one point Defense Minister Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said he was ready to resign if the assembly felt he should.

Tension began to grip the session when Deputy Mumtaz Nassar, an independent, stood up to voice his opposition to the U.S.-Egyptian agreement providing for surveying mineral resources, oil deposits and subterranean water in the Western Desert by remote detection methods. The agreement, worth $675 million, was being debated by the assembly.

Mumtaz Nassar based his objection to the agreement on an important, top secret and urgent letter former Defense Minister Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi sent to the minister of education and scientific research -- since the project fell under the category of scientific research. In his letter, Lieutenant General Badawi expressed certain reservations related to security, and said the points raised in his letter should be taken into consideration before permits are granted for the planes to be used in aerial surveying.

As soon as Nassar finished reading this secret letter, Defense Minister Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah asked for permission to speak. He said he was surprised by the disclosure of this secret document and, condemned the leak. He asked Nassar to reveal the source of his information. A number of opposition deputies and some members of the ruling party objected to Abu Ghazalah's attitude, but the latter insisted on his position, maintaining that the loophole that made such a leak possible should be plugged. An argument developed and the atmosphere became tense. The defense minister said he was prepared to take off his military uniform and leave the hall rather than allow information related to national security to be leaked.

People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib then intervened. He said that the assembly was certainly interested in safeguarding national security and that the defense minister had a right to launch an inquriy to determine how the information was leaked.

After a long debate, the assembly approved the agreement after receiving assurances from the government that Egyptian airspace would be safe, that the planes in question would not conduct the survey without first obtaining a permit from the competent authorities, that their flight paths would be determined, that the crews would include Egyptians, and that all the information and photographs taken by these planes would be the property of Egypt and would not be publicized.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER URGES STRENGTHENED ARMED FORCES

NC252017 Cairo MENA in English 1938 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] Alexandria, 25 Mar (MENA) -- The speaker of the People's Assembly said here today that Egypt should strengthen its armed forces despite the conclusion of peace with Israel. Dr Sufi Abu Talib, addressing the Air Defence Academy, said "any sound political decision, freely taken, should be bolstered by military strength that can back it up in the area around us."

He added that the Egyptian Armed Forces are not only for the defence of Egypt but also for the defence of the Arab world.

Dr Abu Talib headed a delegation of the People's Assembly Defence and National Security Committee on a visit to the academy. He highly praised the academy's work.

AIR FORCE CELEBRATES ARRIVAL OF F-16'S

NC271912 Cairo MENA in English 1900 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) -- The Egyptian Air Force celebrated today the receipt of the first consignment of American-made F-16 planes. Air Force Commander Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Lutfi Shabanah headed the ceremony at an airfield outside Cairo.

American test pilot Niel Anderson gave a display of the maneuverability and other feats of the F-16. Shabanah said the F-16 has outstanding combat capacity, maneuverability and fire power. He said that Egyptian airmen and technicians have been trained in the United States on the F-16 and new crews would start training on the plane tomorrow.

He added that Canadian-made Buffalo transport planes were arrived in Egypt, and the first consignment of French-built Alpha jet planes would arrive next month.

BRITISH DEFENSE MINISTER PRAISES CAIRO TALKS

NC251310 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Mar (MENA) -- Lord Trenchard, British minister of state for defense procurement, currently visiting Egypt, has described his talks with Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, minister of defense and war production, and Eng Jamal as-Sayyid, minister of state for war production, as extremely good. The talks dealt with ways to promote cooperation in the field of joint military production in addition to the exchange of expertise and training.

The British minister told newsmen that the talks also dealt with the production of the British Scorpion tank, which is characterized by its lightness, speed and high efficiency.

Lord Trenchard said that he has been acquainted with Egypt's requirements of defensive arms and said: We will try to meet all these requirements.

He said his country is participating in testing and reoperating T-44, T-54 and T-62 tanks in addition to upgrading the 150-MM field artillery gun.

Lord Trenchard affirmed that Anglo-Egyptian cooperation in the field of joint production and training has been good and will prosper in the future. He noted in this respect that a British Navy commander will visit Egypt at the beginning of May and that British ships will visit Egypt.

He said Egyptian experts will visit Britain at a later date to acquaint themselves with the modern automatic system of supervising and managing land operations. It enables the chief of operations to issue and receive information from various parts of the front as quickly as possible and thus contributes to the speed and efficiency of the operation.

Lord Trenchard praised the production of the Swing-Fire, which was the first fruit of the joint production factories. He said that its workers have shown utmost efficiency in absorbing modern technology.

Concerning the supply to Egypt of British transport and training planes, he said that this will take place later. On British participation in the multinational force, Lord Trenchard said that the British contribution with a contingent consisting of 35 men has been misinterpreted. Our participation means and shows our support of the idea of setting up the force as a step toward establishing peace in the area.

In the field of training, Lord Trenchard said: In the last year we contributed toward the training of 65 Egyptian experts in various fields. We hope to increase the number in the future as a contribution toward promoting Egyptian efficiency and understanding between the two countries.

Concerning the supply of gunboats to Egypt, he said that this is being discussed with the Egyptian side and that Egypt has actually received the gunboat "Ramadan" which is being operated efficiently. Asked if it is expected to increase British participation in financing joint production projects, Lord Trenchard said: It is difficult to decide this because of our obligations and commitment to NATO. But if we were able to reduce our appropriations to the NATO budget, we would be pleased to increase our participation in financing Egyptian projects to secure its field of defense.

Lord Trenchard arrived in Cairo last Monday on a 5-day visit.

BRITISH PLEDGE TANK WORKS, COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

NC260814 Cairo MENA in English 0730 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM quoted on its front page British Defence Secretary Lord Trenchard, who is currently visiting Cairo, as declaring that Britain had offered to supply Egypt with a complete works for building light Scorpion tanks and a computerised radio communications system.

The paper further reports that the British defense secretary disclosed that Egyptian-British cooperation in the manufacture of weapons included renovation and developments of the Soviet-built T-54 and T-55 tanks. Britain appreciates Egypt's role in making peace in the Middle East and is prepared to supply all military requirements Egypt asked for, Lord Trenchard also said.

ISRAELI ENVOY DELIVERS BEGIN LETTER TO MUBARAK

NC281441 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a written letter from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin answering the president's letter that was delivered last week by Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz. The letter was delivered by Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason during his meeting with President Mubarak today.

In his answers to the reporters' questions after the meeting, the Israeli ambassador described the letter as cordial and said that in it the Israeli prime minister explains the subjects President Mubarak asked be explained. Moshe Sason added that views were exchanged on matters of mutual interest at the meeting. Answering a question on the West Bank incidents, the Israeli ambassador expressed his hope that stability and quiet would prevail in the area. He said: We are holding serious discussions and hope that all peoblems will be solved.

Ambassador Sason affirmed that the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai is proceeding as agreed. He indicated that discussion is underway on all arrangements pertaining to the treaty, that progress has been achieved, and that the two sides are working very seriously to overcome the basic points of disagreement.

'ALI ON WEST BANK IN MONDAY MORNING INTERVIEW

NC282154 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that the situation in the West Bank will not affect the implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. He added that the Egyptian people will be shocked [yusdamu] in the event Israel annexes the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

In an interview published in the Lebanese magazine MONDAY MORNING, 'Ali said that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty must be implemented regardless of the circumstances. He explained that the Egyptian Government will react like any other Arab government and like the Europeans and the United States. He added that he believes that the United States will act in its capacity as a full partner in the Camp David agreements.

'Ali said the deteriorating situation in the West Bank is an obstacle to possible Palestinian participation in the autonomy elections. He expressed the hope that conditions in the West Bank will not deteriorate to a point that will make negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians impossible.

'Ali rejected any unilateral measures taken by Israel in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip or against the inhabitants of these two areas. He said: We are seriously interested in continuing the autonomy talks either before or after 25 April, because we want a comprehensive peace. We believe that if we can agree on principles which the Palestinians may accept, we will have taken the first practical steps toward peace.

'Ali said that Egyptian-Israeli differences over withdrawal from some areas in the Sinai are purely technical and nonpolitical and that this technical dispute will not delay Israeli withdrawal from occupied Egytian territory.

'Ali said that restoration of relations between Egypt and the Arab world is inevitable and natural. He said that for relations to resume, the Arabs must cancel the measures they have taken against Egypt since the Camp David agreements were signed, adding that these measures must be canceled either on a bilateral or collective basis.

CAIRO RADIO COMMENTS ON SINAI WITHDRAWAL

NC261425 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "The Israeli Crisis and the Final Withdrawal From Sinai"]

[Text] Some may doubt the Israeli Government's ability to fulfill the peace treaty provision for a comprehensive withdrawal from Sinai on 25 April, 1 month from now, because of the severe tension in the occupied Arab territory and the political crisis the Israeli Government is facing, as shown recently by the no-confidence motion tabled in the Knesset, and because of the current differences between Egypt and Israel over the border.

However, the facts dissipate these doubts. The government's crisis was present in Israel before the peace process started. It is related to the power structure, which lacks a clear party majority through which the government can easily adopt its decisions. Nevertheless, this crisis would not be resolved without the peace process finding its course in the Israeli society. This process has perhaps many times helped the Israeli Government to win popularity and to overcome several difficulties in the domestic fields.

Regarding the severe tension prevailing in the occupied Arab territory, although we believe that it is an inevitable result of the Israeli's suppressive policies which Egypt has condemned and has considered a violation of the measures necessary for building trust, this tension is at the same time more conducive to any Israeli Government to realize that the best way to solve this problem is to concentrate on founding better relations of coexistence with the Palestinian people contributing toward the achievement of peace.

The differences between Egypt and Israel over the border, are not a surprising matter and have been taken into consideration. The Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty contains provisions on how to solve such differences through negotiations, mediation or arbitration. The two sides have agreed to complete the withdrawal from Sinai on time even if some of these differences remained under discussion.

Nevertheless, we hope that Israel will overcome its political crisis and will maintain reason and self-restraint in confronting the Arab upsurge in the occupied territory. We also hope that the differences with Egypt over the border will be solved soon. Nobody should think that this hope portrays a longing for the moment of the complete withdrawal from Sinai because the liberation of the Sinai is not a hope or an aspiration but it is an inevitable popular demand over which there can be no bargaining. It is a return to normal conditions that our people enjoyed for thousands of years.

Peace has become an inevitable fact which seeks through its intrinsic power the course to its planned objective. When Egypt turned to peace and stressed that there shall be no war after that of October, that was a mutual pledge between it and Israel.

Egypt will not retract its pledges. Egypt believes that he who retracts would be retracting oneself. The fact calls upon us to declare that the Israeli side has not so far failed to fulfill any of its commitments provided for in the peace treaty. We believe that this is a natural thing and it is equally the same commitment made by Egypt. In our opinion, it is the sole path available to Israel to overcome any crisis or isolation and it is the sure guarantee to Israel's security and the future of its relations with its Arab neighbors.

AL-JUMHURIYAH SEES NO OBSTACLE TO WITHDRAWAL

NC282243 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2205 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) -- The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says there is no dispute over the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai or over the date set for it despite the outstanding problems regarding the location of certain points on Egypt's international border.

In a commentary to be published in its Monday edition, the newspaper says all parties have agreed on this, which is clear from President Mubarak's assertion that the Israeli withdrawal will take place on schedule and Menahem Begin's assertion to the same effect a few days ago.

The newspaper refers to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's statement that the method of negotiations over the differences on the location of certain points on the Egyptian-Israeli border has been exhausted or is about to be exhausted and that arbitration is the way to end the dispute. 'Ali also affirmed that restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations is inevitable.

The newspaper says that, thus, the primary features of Egypt's post-withdrawal policy are becoming clear, features which President Mubarak has earlier defined whether on the domestic or foreign levels.

AL-AHRAM SAYS W. BANK EVENTS FAVOR EXTREMISTS

NC272318 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2244 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) -- In a commentary to be published Sunday, the newspaper AL-AHRAM says that the most dangerous thing in the West Bank disturbances is that the extremist Israeli settlers have taken the initiative in attacking the Palestinian people whether this took place with or without the knowledge of the authorities.

The paper adds that the aim of the Israeli authorities is to divert attention from the real causes of the deterioriation of the situation and to portray it as being purely public clashes demanding the authorities interference to separate the parties and maintain law and order. Hence the authorities would not appear to be directly involved and condemned in its confrontation with the Arab inhabitants but would appear as an umpire seeking to bring about calm, stability and security for all and thus justifying all the measures it has been adopting.

The paper says that this will be a dangerous game, because it would be difficult to control any severe disturbances. Subsequently, it would lead to continuing the direct military rule on the basis that the autonomy experiment through the appointment of Professor Menahem Milson as governor of the West Bank has failed.

The paper says that a fair view could see that this failure has been expected if not calculated, because it was set up on the formula of the rejected village leagues, which was the first seed of dissension which the Palestinian people totally rejected. The paper asks whether it is now intended to allow the situation to fall in the hands of Palestinian and Israeli extremists, drawing them into a wider conflict so as to return to the vigor of the military rule?

CAIRO PRESS ON ARAB TIES, WEST BANK EVENTS

NC280813 Cairo MENA in English 0720 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) -- The weekly "AS-SIYASI" leads its front-page news with a report on endeavours being made by six Arab countries, namely Sudan, Somalia, Oman, Bahrain, Morocco and Jordan, to clear Arab differences.

The paper quotes a high-ranking diplomatic source as disclosing that the general atmosphere is now appropriate for more understanding between the Arab countries and Egypt.

The paper quotes Foreign Ministry sources as saying that Egypt does not object to any Arab desire for understanding and clearing differences and welcomes any sincere Arab effort away for political outbidding and meaningless rhetoric.

AL-AHRAM comments in its editorial on the events of the West Bank of the Jordan and finds in them ominous portents indicating Israel's intention to annex the territory.

GHALI RETURNS TO CAIRO, MAKES STATEMENT

NC272349 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2323 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali arrived in Cairo tonight from Paris after his visit to Conakry and Dakar.

Ghali said that during his 6-day tour he delivered letters from President Husni Mubarak to Guinean President Sekou Toure and Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

He said that he had talks with the officials in these states on the division in the African continent, which might lead to a split in the OAU. Ghali stressed that Egypt is trying to settle the conflict in the OAU so that peace may prevail on the African continent. He noted that this was the subject of the two letters which he conveyed from President Mubarak to presidents Toure and Diouf.

He said that Egypt will hold contacts with African states, the foremost of which is Sudan, as there is a complete coordination between the diplomatic efforts of the two countries. He pointed out that Egypt believes that it is necessary to defend African solidarity so that peace may prevail on the continent.

Concluding his statement, Ghali said that during his 1-day visit to Paris he had talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson dealing with the recent division on the African continent.

SUDANESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC260850 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Cario, 26 Mar (MENA) -- Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad al-Mirghani [Mubarak] arrived in Cairo from Khartoum this morning for a few days visit to Egypt.

In a statement he made to MENA following his arrival, the Sudanese minister said he is carrying a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri to President Husni Mubarak connected with the continuous consultations between the two presidents.

Commenting on the current OAU crisis, Al-Mirghani said: We have contacted the chairman of the current OAU session and expressed our view that it is necessary to convene an extraordinary conference of the organization to safeguard its unity and rectify the error made.

Commenting on the present situation between Sudan and Libya, the minister said: There has been no change in the situation.

Al-Mirghani was welcomed by Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Ambassador Hasan Nayil and Sudan's Ambassador in Cairo 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman.

Attends Talks

NC281624 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The Egyptian-Sudanese discussions began at the Foreign Ministry this afternoon. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali headed the Egyptian side and Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani [Mubarak] headed the Sudanese side.

Discussion centered on African issues and coordination of the stands of Egypt and Sudan to preserve the OAU's aims and principles.

The Sudanese foreign minister made a statement to our reporter in which he said that the discussions between the two sides will be resumed in Khartoum in the next 2 days and that it has been agreed that the two states will exert efforts to achieve an African reconciliation and solidarity. He added that Sudan believes it is necessary to hold a special OAU summit to tackle the situation and safeguard the OAU's unity.

In conclusion, the minister said that Sudan resists Libya's attempts to interfere in its affairs and that the Sudanese people support the Sudanese Government's efforts to establish security and stability throughout Sudan.

Meets With 'Ali

NC281409 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani [Mubarak]. They discussed bilateral relations and integration projects in various fields. The discussion also dealt with the current situation in Africa, particularly in light of the present division in the OAU, which became evident during the recent meeting of the African foreign ministers council meeting in Addis Ababa following the Saharan republic delegation's attendance at the council's meetings. 'Ali and Mirghani exchanged views on the efforts by Egypt and Sudan to repair the rift in the OAU.

Meets With Mubarak

NC280850 Cairo MENA in English 0825 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak received here today Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak who is currently visiting here.

The meeting was attended by the Sudanese ambassador here, 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman Nasr.

The Sudanese foreign minister said after his 90 minute meeting with President Mubarak that he gave him a message from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri which comes with the framework of coordination between their two countries in all domestic and foreign issues. The message also deals with the situation in Egypt and the Sudan and integration between both countries.

President Mubarak, he added, asked him to hand President Numayri a reply message.

The Sudanese minister assured reporters over the situation in the Sudan, and said that the recent changes were only natural. They do not mean that the Sudan was facing trouble Mirghani said.

The Sudan, he added, welcomes all U.S. aid be it in the military or economic field as both are essential as regard the circumstances through which the Sudan is passing which require a military capability as well as a strong interior front to face up to the menances which beset it.

Returns Home

NC282226 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA) -- Sudanese Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak left Cairo for Khartoum tonight following a 2-day visit. In a statement to MENA prior to his departure, the Sudanese foreign minister said that he gave a message to President Husni Mubarak from his brother President Numayri within the framework of the constant consultations between the two presidents. He added that President Mubarak conveyed his views on the topics mentioned in the message, which deal with bilateral relations, African and international issues of interest to the two countries.

The Sudanese foreign minister expressed regret at the split in the OAU, adding that Sudan has called for the need to convene an emergency summit meeting to bring about a reconciliation, affirm African solidarity and avoid any split.

The Sudanese foreign minister said that Sudanese denounces Libyan plotting and sabotage against Sudan.

Concerning Sudanese-Chadian relations, the Sudanese foreign minister said that Sudan will open an embassy in Ndjamena at the earliest opportunity, perhaps in the next few days, and that the Sudanese airways will resume their flights to Chad. He added that as soon as the Sudanese Embassy staff members arrive in Ndjamena, Sudan will repair the Numayri School in the Chadian capital so that studies may resume in it, which is in accordance with the joint statement issued following the Chadian president's visit to Sudan.

The Sudanese foreign minister was seen off at the airport by Minister of Irrigation and Minister of State for Sudan Affairs Engineer 'Abd al-Hadi Samahah, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Hasan Nayil, the Sudanese ambassador in Cairo and staff members of the Sudanese Embassy.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RELIGIOUS TRUSTS APPOINTED

NC261917 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a decision appointing Ibrahim ad-Dusuqi 'Abd al-Hamid Mar'i minister of state for religious trusts. The president has also issued another decision appointing Shaykh 'Abd al-Latif 'Abd al-Ghani Hamzah as Mufti for the Arab Republic of Egypt.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM REPORTS DETENTION OF DISSIDENTS

NC262046 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2020 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar (MENA -- In Saturday's edition, AKHBAR AL-YAWM reports that 30 fugitive members of the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation [Takfir) have been detained.

The paper adds that during the detention of the Al-Jihad organization members it was discovered that there is another organization affiliated with the Society of Repudiation and Renunciation that includes a number of fugitives.

It is worth noting that in 1978 a large number of members of the society of Repudiation and Renunciation were eliminated, including the society's leader, Shukri Mustafa, for murdering former Religious Trusts Minister Dr Husayn adh-Dhahabi.

200 EMERGENCY LAW DETAINEES TO BE RELEASED

NC271519 Cairo MENA in English 1500 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 27 Mar (MENA) -- About two hundred persons taken into custody under the emergency law will be released in implementation of President Husni Mubarak's directives.

The decision was taken after their cases were examined and it was proved that they constitute no danger to the security situation after they abandoned their extremist thoughts as a result of the dialogue and seminars made with them during their custody.

Minister of Interior Hasan Abu Basha gave his instructions that these persons be released immediately.

HAYKAL: AS-SADAT'S ASSASSINS PERCEIVED AS HEROES

NC242238 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 22-28 Mar 82 p 39

[Inset into interview by Mohammad Hasanayn Haykal with Mona as-Said of Beirut's MONDAY MORNING magazine in Cairo "last week": "Villains and Heroes: Assassin al-Islambuli and J.R. Ewing"]

[Text] Mohammad Hasanayn Haykal confirmed that he had told the London SUNDAY TIMES in an interview last month that the assassins of the late President Anwar as-Sadat were regarded as national heroes in Egypt, but he said he did not object to the death sentences which five of them received earlier this month and he thought President Mubarak had no alternative but to confirm the sentences.

Responding to those in Egypt who had criticized his description of the assassins as heroes, Haykal said:

"In this sort of case, one must differentiate between three different elements."

"The first element is the set of values or ideals which pushed a man like (Lt Khalid Ahmad Shawqi) al-Islamabuli to do what he did. I personally believe that religious fanaticism is wrong.

"The second element is the law. Every society must have a law as an Arbiter, and no society can afford not to apply the law. Where laws are not applied, there is chaos. And there is no question that al-Islambuli and his partners broke the law.

"The third element is the attitude of society. The ticklish question is whether the assassins, despite the values that motivated them and the fact that they broke the law, can be regarded as heroes. My answer is yes.

"Look at Mr Briggs, the mastermind of the great train robbery in England. He broke the law and he was motivated by greed, but he became a hero in England. Why? Because of his daring and the precision of his act.

"Look at J.R. Ewing in the television serial 'Dallas.' He is an ugly criminal, a killer, and yet he is regarded as a hero in Beirut and among a certain class in Cairo. Why? Because he is daring and because he does not let anything stand in his way. Many people like these qualities, including many of the people who object to the description of Al-Islambuli as a national hero. If Briggs and J.R. Ewing -- villains both of them -- are popular heroes, why not Al-Islambuli? Why not? Unfortunately, there is class bias involved here.

"The fact is that Al-Islambuli is admired. People may disapprove of assassination, they may disapprove of religious fanaticism, they may have even liked As-Sadat, but they instinctively admire Al-Islambuli for his daring, for the way he took his action.

"And there is another dimension here which does not exist in the cases of other hero-villains like Briggs and J.R., and that is the dimension of self-sacrifice. A political assassination is not a regular killing. The men who decided to kill Anwar as-Sadat decided, in fact, to sacrifice their lives for the life of Anwar as-Sadat. They had not chance to escape, and they knew it, but they still went ahead with it. That is something that everybody realizes and few can resist admiring, although they may be totally opposed to the action.

"The assassins of Anwar as-Sadat are popular heroes. But does that mean that the law should not be applied to them? It does not. As I said, no society can afford not to apply its laws. I will go further, although this may sound cold-blooded to you: I say that by applying the law in this case, you are honoring Al-Islambuli and his friends. If you let them escape, you will turn them from men with a cause into hired gunmen.

"That is why I say that Husni Mubarak has to accept the sentences. But his accepting them does not mean that these people are not popular heroes. They are, no matter what a certain class here in Cairo says."

COURT ISSUES LEGAL REASONS IN AS-SADAT CASE

NC241956 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1532 GMT 24 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) -- The legal reasons on which the judgment is based in the case of the assassination of the departed President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat were announced today. They call for the execution of 5 defendants, the passing of prison sentences ranging from 25 to 5 years on 17 defendants and the acquittal of 2 defendants.

The legal reasons for the sentences state that the confessions made by the first four accused in the course of the investigation carried out by the military prosecution and the chronological sequence of the actual events of this case indicate in all certainty that all these defendants acted premeditatively. The reason is that, as soon as the idea of perpetrating the crime fired his imagination, defendant No 1 Khalid al-Islambuli, went to defendant No 5, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam Faraj, who entrenched the idea in Al-Islambuli's mind, encouraged him and promised him to dedicate his efforts to provide Al-Islambuli with all his requirements. Defendant No 5 agreed with defendant No 1 to start together to prepare the means for perpetrating the crime, and every one of them concerned himself with an aspect of the crime in such a way that Khalid would put forward his idea and his plan to those nominated to him by Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam so that Al-Islambuli would enlist their help. Those nominated to Al-Islambuli were defendant No 3, 'Ata Tayil [Hamid Rahil], and defendant No 4, Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad.

The legal reasons add that defendant No 1 deliberated carefully to project an image of the story that he had fabricated to admit defendants Nos 2, 3 and 4 into his unit, and to work out a way to keep loaded and serviceable weapons, although orders had been issued for the removal of the firing pins from the chambers of their weapons. However, defendant No 2, 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abd as-Salam, disclosed that although he agreed ideologically with defendant No 1 Khalid, he did not declare his agreement to contribute to the crime until he examined the matter and ascertained its success, because he had earlier feared that their attempt would fail.

The legal reasons on which the judgment is based also state that defendant No 3 admitted that he agreed to participate in the perpetration of the crime after having appraised the legitimate justification cited for him by Khalid.

Defendant No 4 disclosed that Khalid's offer was agreeable to him, because for a long time he had wanted to see this achieved and had invoked God almighty to grant him his aspiration.

The legal reasons also say that the time spanning the agreement among the first four defendants on committing the crime and the date of the perpetration of the crime had [word indistinct], and the fact that the defendants had passed through the successive phases of the plot over many days, which proves categorically that their actions were premeditated. The reason is that these defendants moved from one phase to another in accordance with a prior plan, while growing more satisfied with, and more determined, to fulfill their objective.

According to the legal reasons on which the judgment is based, premeditation existed even though the perpetrator of the crime missed the target and hit another. In a recent judgement, the court of appeal ruled that where there is premeditation, murder is considered connected with it and inseparable from it even though the perpetrator of the crime missed the target.

The legal reasons on which the judgment is based say that in order to establish a lying-in-wait circumstance, it suffices for the perpetrator of the crime to lie in wait for the victim for a period of time, however long or short, in a place to which the victim is expected to come so as to surprise and attack him, irrespective of whether the act of lying in wait is done in hiding.

The legal reasons say that the act of lying in wait is established by what the first four defendants did because the second, third and fourth defendants were not participants in the military parade and the first defendant had admitted them to their unit unlawfully, as was established in the charges and the confessions of the defendants during the investigations by the military prosecution and since they had hidden in the unit's center until they rode in the vehicle which later passed in front of the principal platform and treacherously surprised the president and those who were with him by hurling bombs and directing gunfire at them.

The legal reasons add that the court was convinced that, by their action, the first four defendants were all responsible for the premeditated murder of President of the Republic Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat, Engineer Hilmi Ibrahim, Staff Maj Gen Hasan 'Allam, Abbot Samuel and Omani national Khalfan Nasir Muhammad.

They also attempted with premeditation to murder Eng Sayyid Ahmad Mar'i, Fawzi 'Abd al-Hafiz, Mahmud 'Abd an-Nasir, Staff Maj Gen Muhammad Nabih as-Sayyid, Maj Gen 'Abd al-Mun'im Mihammad Wasil (ret), Cuban Ambassador Domingo Garcia Rodrigues, Belgian Ambassador Claude Ruelle, American National (Christopher Brian), American national (Hagen Brood), American national (Bret Makloski), Omani national 'Abdallah Fadil, Chinese national (Lu Gufan), Chinese national (Wang Ying) and 11 others.

The legal reasons on which judgment is based say that on the basis of the aforementioned, the court is convinced that the charges contained in paragraph one of the bill of indictment have been established against Defendant No. 1 Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli, defendant No 2 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abd as-Salam 'Abd al-'Al 'Ali, defendant No 3 'Ata Tayil Hamid and defendant No 4 Husayn 'Abbas Muhammad excepting their responsibility for the death of photographer Muhsin Yusuf Rashwan, Chinese national (Swang Lu) and Sa'id 'Abd ar-Ra'uf Bakr and for the attempted murder of Mahir Muhsin 'Ali al-Muhami, Maj 'Abd as-Salam Mutawalli as-Sab', Capt Muhammad Ibrahim Salim and Bur'i Muhammad 'Uwaydah.

The legal reasons say that on the basis of the facts of the charges, it is established that defendant No 5, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam Faraj 'Atiyah, was an accomplice in instigating, agreeing to and abetting the crimes on which the first four accused have committed. Therefore, he is convicted of the charge brought against him in the second paragraph of the bill of indictment.

The legal reasons add that the investigation and the statement made by the defendants during the investigation carried out by the military prosecution convinced the court that Defendant No 10, Dr 'Umar Ahmad 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman, was not installed as the amir of the group of defendants. Furthermore, when faced during the investigation with his acceptance of the post of amir temporarily, he denied the vehemently, reiterating that he had rejected the offer repeatedly.

On the other hand, Dr 'Umar's agreement to be the leader of the group of defendants was confirmed by some defendants who presumed that Dr 'Umar had given his consent and, therefore, confirmed his agreement, whereas other defendants refuted it. Dr 'Umar unequivocally denied agreeing to be the leader of the group. Therefore, it is highly dubious. Consequently, such being the case, it is impossible to determine the authenticity of his agreeing with full confidence and with comprehensive certainty. Thus, the repudiation of this agreement and its denial evoked a basic rule which determines that doubt favors the defendant.

The legal reasons on which the judgment is based add that, assuming that Dr 'Umar accepted the leadership of this group, the mere acceptance is not a sinful act in itself, as long as his leadership did not come into being through a tangible criminal activity, and as long as the group did not commit anything ordered by Dr 'Umar which would bring the group to task and which would subject it to punishment. Furthermore, the prosecution did not use Dr 'Umar's leadership as a means for substantiating charges against Dr 'Umar of the type usually leveled against a person who forms a group for the purpose of violating the law.

The legal reasons add that as far as the charge preferred against Dr 'Umar is concerned -- the charge that Dr 'Umar provided justifications which encouraged the defendants and prompted them to commit what they committed -- the statements made by Defendant No. 5, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam, provide clear-cut and irrefutable evidence that Dr 'Umar did not provide a religious justification for the shedding of the blood of the victimized president. However, 5 months before the incident he had justified for the group the infidelity of the assassinated president. But this infidelity does not ostracize the victim from the Islamic religion. However, the group was not convinced of Dr 'Umar's justification and they deduced that shedding the assassinated president's blood was justifiable from the religious perspective. However, Dr 'Umar did not provide them with a justification for this action, be it frankly or as a matter of opinion.

The legal reasons say that it is inadmissible, in accordance with the Sharia and with the law, and that it is rationally and logically incorrect, that one man should bear the brunt of, and the responsibility for, the conclusion drawn by another man, who might draw the right or the wrong conclusion. Even presuming that Dr 'Umar had provided a justification for the shedding of the blood of the victimized president several months prior to the occurrence of the incident, and so that he can justly be brought to task, he should have continued to insist on his justification, which was not proved. Even more, Dr 'Umar denied having made the justification completely, let alone the fact that this justification was ineluctably connected with the criminal culprits, who intended to commit murder so that Dr 'Umar would be held responsible in his capacity as their instigator through his justification.

Furthermore, no [words indistinct] to link Dr 'Umar to any of the first four accused culprits. For instance, defendant No 5, Muhammad 'Abd as-Salam Farah 'Atiyah, the theoretician whose ideas firmly prevailed in the minds of the defendants in general, and of the culprits in particular, acquitted Dr 'Umar of having justified the shedding of the murdered president's blood.

The legal reasons say that it is established from the statements made by the defendants -- those who attributed to Dr 'Umar as having given the legal opinion that the shedding of the blood of the victim president was allowed or those who denied this -- that none of them had not met with him for 2 months before the incident and that all of them admitted clearly that they had not asked his legal opinion on the assassination of the president on 6 October 1981 during his presence on the platform during the military parade.

The legal reasons add that it is established that defendant No 1 Khalid entertained the idea of carrying out the assassination during the last third of the month of September 1981, a few days before the date of the military parade. This clearly proves that there is no connection between the legal opinion allegedly attributed to Dr 'Umar -- if that is true -- and the perpetration of the incident from the realistic and practical standpoint.

For instigation to take place, one should go directly to the perpetrator and influence him to commit the crime. This was not categorically established against Dr 'Umar. Therefore, Dr 'Umar Ahmad 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman must be acquitted of the charges brought against him and his innocence must rightly be ruled.

HAMMADI COMMENTS ON ATTEMPTS TO END WAR

PM261305 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 26 Mar 82 p 4

[John Bulloch dispatch: "Gulf War Talks Calls by Iraq"]

[Text] Baghdad -- The latest attempt to find a negotiated solution to the Gulf war with Iran had failed, said Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, the Iraqi foreign minister.

"Of course we would like to see an end to the war," he said. "But the Islamic mission which tried to mediate neither failed nor succeeded. It was something in between, because of the negative attitude of Iran."

In an exclusive interview, Dr Hammadi denied reports that Iraq was willing to withdraw its troops from captured Iranian territory if negotiations began. But in a significant offer to the Tehran government, he said that although the official Iraqi line was that there should be a ceasefire to be followed by negotiations and withdrawal, "we are ready to connect all these things together." According to diplomats in Baghdad, this was an offer of talks to deal with the causes of the war, which if successful could result in a "global" settlement, with total Iraqi withdrawal.

But Mr Hammadi said he believed Iran thought it could settle the problem through military means which meant the war would go on. He admitted that it was Iraq which started the current round of fighting which broke a long period of inaction. That was not part of any political process, the minister said, but a purely military move. However, there had been questions about the motives for the new Iraqi attack, as it had coincided with efforts aimed at leading to an exchange of prisoners which could greatly improve the chances of peace between the two countries.

Dr Hammadi also said his government would welcome a change of regime in Syria, though it would not take any active steps to promote one. "We have already seen that the Syrian people themselves are prepared to do that," he added. The minister was particularly incensed at Syrian help for Iran, which was matched by supplies sent from Israel.

On broader issues, Iraq had no doubt that Israel intended to annex the West Bank of the Jordan, and saw pan-Arab action as the only way to stop that. He admitted that given current divisions this would be difficult to promote. Dr Hammadi believed Europe could play a significant role in the Middle East. He regretted British and other participation in the Sinai peace-keeping force, which lent support to the "defunct" Camp David process.

MUSLIM, ARAB VOLUNTEERS REPORTED FIGHTING IRAN

JN261905 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Mar (INA) -- It was disclosed here today that Muslim volunteers from India, Pakistan and Bangladesh as well as Arab volunteers from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Morocco, Sudan, Somalia, Djibouti and Mauritania are fighting alongside Iraq against the Persians.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, commander in chief of the Popular Army, today visited a camp where Arab and Muslim volunteers are being trained in combat tactics preparatory to joining a large number of Arab volunteers.

Ramadan described the camp as a place for developing human relations between Arab and Muslim fighters. He added that the Arab and Muslim volunteers emobdy the epitome of struggling solidarity between the Arab and the Islamic peoples.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 657

JN251829 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Mar (INA) -- It was announced here today that as a result of the battles raging in the Dezful and Shush regions, the Persian enemy's losses amount to 15,998 killed; a large number of personnel wounded and captured; 140 tanks, 79 personnel carriers, 92 vehicles, 22 guns and 16 excavators destroyed; and 4 aircraft, 2 of which were fighter planes, downed. Also quantities of various types of equipment and hardware were destroyed.

Communique No 657 issued by the Armed Forces General Command said Iraqi forces have seized 58 tanks, 16 guns, 23 armored personnel carriers, 4 rocket launchers and many guns and mortars. All of these are serviceable.

Following is the text of Communique No 657 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, great Iraqi people, masses of our glorious nation; peace and freedom-loving people all over the world: So the dreams of the evil ruling clique in Tehran were destroyed. This reckless clique is devoid of the basic components of responsibility toward the people of Iran and mankind. The dreams of the evil ones in Iran -- dreams which were inspired by their dead minds and consciences and by the minds and consciences of the enemies of Iraq and the Arab nation -- have been destroyed.

The aggressor enemy believed it could encircle the Iraqi divisions operating in the Dezful and Shush sectors and destroy their combat assets by merely providing quantitive superiority by sending the misled and those suffering the same mental disease of charlatan Khomeyni to impose a poltical reality against the will of the Iraqi people and the Arab nation. However, our hero army, the faithful defender of the nation's dignity and rights and protector of Iraq's land, sovereignty and interests, was lying in wait for these evil dreams.

Our army has disappointed them and wiped out the waves of the mad and oppressed who were sent to the war by Khomenyni and his ruling clique. Khomeyni and his clique, however, only reaped more blood of the sons of Iran and disappointment from their evil and expansionist dreams against Iraq and the Arab nation.

Brothers, right has triumphed over wrong. Also, noble will and intentions have triumphed over aggressive and vicious will and intentions. The Iraqi people remained powerful and capable and the Iraqi Army remained victorious in defense of right and honor with a relentless capability.

Thus, total known enemy losses from 21 March up until this communique was counted and prepared by the competent authorities amount to 15,998 killed; a large number of personnel wounded and captured; 140 tanks, 79 armored personnel carriers, 92 vehicles, 22 guns and 16 excavators destroyed; and 4 aircraft downed, 2 of them fighter planes and 2 helicopters. Furthermore, very large quantities of arms, equipment and hardware were destroyed. The Iraqi forces captured 58 tanks, 16 guns, 23 armored personnel carriers and 4 rocket launchers as well as many guns, mortars, vehicles and various types of arms. All of these are serviceable.

Our sacrifices since 21 March up until this communique was prepared amount to 449 martyrs; 59 tanks, 56 personnel carriers, 42 vehicles, 28 guns and 2 excavators damaged; and 2 fighter planes downed.

God is great and glory to the righteous; God is great and defeat belongs to the expansionist aggressors. Victory comes only from God.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 March 1982

Communique No 658

JN261707 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Mar (INA) -- The Armed Forces General Command announced that Iraqi forces are in full control of the Shush-Dezful front. The command said that attempts of the Khomeyni evil clique have been destroyed and defeated.

The General Command said enemy losses losses in the Shush-Dezful sector amount to 2,237 killed; a large number of wounded and prisoners; and 34 tanks, 17 armored personnel carriers, 27 vehicles, 4 rocket batteries, 6 excavators and 6 rocket launchers destroyed. The General Command said the corrupt, reckless and irresponsible clique in Iran is driving the deluded and misled to certain death.

The Iraqi military communique said Iraqi helicopters today attacked enemy positions, vehicles, armored cars and personnel carriers in the Shush-Dezful sector, inflicting grave losses. All our helicopters returned safely to base. Other military operations took place in the sectors of Abadan, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Sumar, Nowsud and Ahvaz. The communique asserted that enemy losses as a result of these operations amounted to 21 killed. The communique put total enemy losses in all sectors at 2,258 killed and 35 tanks, 17 armored personnel carriers, 27 vehicles, 4 rocket batteries, 6 rocket launchers, 6 excavators and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed. The Iraqi forces' losses amounted to 97 martyrs and 1 tank, 5 personnel carriers, 10 vehicles and 2 excavators damaged.

Following is the text of the communique: Communique No 658 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave forces continued to confirm their full control of the situation in all battle-fronts, particularly on the Shush-Dezful front. Our forces, armed with heroic determination and the will of the men of principles who are defending the sovereignty of the homeland and the nation's honor, have proven they are stronger and more capable. Our valiant forces have confirmed through the continued epics that the attempts of the Khomeyni evil clique have been completely destroyed and defeated. The corrupt, reckless and irresponsible clique in Iran which is driving the deluded and misled to inevitable death, has been disappointed and completely defeated. This is taking place at a time when the banner of the victorious Iraqi Army is flying high. The army of rights and principles will, with God's help, continue to confirm their superiority and to achieve great victories. Following is the outcome of the activities last night and today:

1. The Shush-Dezful sector: Our brave units continued to pound enemy forces, whose desperate attempts have floundered on the rock of our armed forces' steadfastness, faith, principles and rights. Our forces inflicted grave losses in life and equipment, the known portion of which amounted to 2,237 killed; a large number of wounded and captured; and 34 tanks, 17 armored personnel carriers, 27 vehicles, 4 rocket batteries, 6 excavators and 6 rocket launchers destroyed.
2. Our helicopters today attacked enemy positions, vehicles, armored cars and personnel carriers in the Shush-Dezful sector in the operations theater, inflicting grave losses. Our helicopters returned safely to base.
3. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration in front of their positions in the Abadan area, killing nine and destroying one stock-pile of hardware.
4. Five were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
5. Five were killed in the Sumar area.
6. Two were killed in the Nowsud area.
7. One tank was destroyed in the Ahvaz area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 2,258 killed; a large number of wounded and prisoners; and 35 tanks, 17 armored personnel carriers, 27 vehicles, 4 rocket batteries, 6 rocket launchers, 6 excavators and 1 stockpile of hardware destroyed.

8. Our sacrificies:

A. In personnel: 97 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: 1 tank, 5 personnel carriers, 10 vehicles and 2 excavators damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 26 March 1982

'REVOLUTIONARIES' BLOW UP PIPELINE IN LEBANON

GF241843 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Islamic Revolution in Arabic 1715 GMT 24 Mar 82

[Text] At a time when the forces of Islam are continuing their fatal blows to Saddam at-Tikriti on the battlefronts, a group of Muslim commandos from our Iraqi Muslim revolutionary brothers in Lebanon today blasted an Iraqi pipeline that carries oil to ports on the Mediterranean Sea through Iranian [as heard] territory. The aforementioned operation inflicted heavy damage on the pipeline and has halted oil exports.

JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE MEETS ON W. BANK

JN251725 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] The Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee met this morning to discuss the latest developments in the occupied Arab land, especially the repressive Israeli measures against the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah. The committee considers this act to be a new crime by the Israeli authorities against legality and a blatant violation of international laws and norms. During the meeting, it was decided to form a standing working committee to follow up developments in the occupied homeland and to supervise implementation of the joint committee's special resolutions to confront the effects of the popular uprising, as continued backing of the uprising is a priority.

Compensation Payments

NC271537 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Amman, 27 Mar (AFP) -- The Jordanian-Palestinian Joint Committee for the Israeli-occupied territories today decided to pay compensation as "victims of Israeli repression" to Palestinian residents of the West Bank and Gaza, sources close to the committee reported.

The three Jordanian ministers and four senior Palestinian leaders, who brought their five-day meeting to an end today, have also devised a series of "concrete measures" to strengthen Palestinian resistance on the West Bank in a bid to foil Israeli annexation plans for the territories. But no details on the measures were forthcoming in Jordan today for security reasons. The team has also decided to set up a Jordan-based restricted committee to track daily events in the strife-torn Israeli-occupied territories.

The Jordanian-Palestinian committee yesterday met with the West Bank Palestinian trade union, professional and political leaders who set up an "advisory committee" several months ago which collaborates closely with the PLO. The names of these Palestinian leaders have remained a closely guarded secret as many of them have relatives still living in the occupied territories. The advisory committee issues recommendations for the distribution of financial aid to Gaza and West Bank Palestinian communities. Sources close to the Jordanian-Palestinian committee said the general strike would be kept up until March 30, to mark the annual Arab "Land Day." The first Land Day on March 30, 1976, called to protest Israel's 1967 occupation, sparked severe Israeli reprisals resulting in the death of six Arab Israelis.

Work Stoppage

JN251811 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] Work today came to a halt for 1 hour in all public and private sectors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Traffice also came to a halt and shops were closed as an expression of citizens' solidarity with the heroic stand of our people in the occupied Arab territories against the Israeli occupation's expansionist plans and conspiracy to implement the Civilian Administration.

Citizens expressed absolute confidence in the wise leadership of His Majesty King Husayn and his honorable stances toward the Palestinian cause as well as his continued efforts to unite the Arab camp for the common good and liberation.

Citiznes prayed to almighty God to help unite Arab ranks and guide Arabs on the path of common good, because it is the only path to liberation.

AD-DUSTUR COMMENTS ON MILSON'S REMARKS

JN270928 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 27 Mar 82 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "Milson Reveals Dimensions of Conspiracy"]

[Text] Menahem Milson's statements yesterday have removed the last mask which Israel has been using to conceal its real hostile intentions to carve up the West Bank through the Civilian Administration conspiracy.

Earlier, these intentions manifested themselves in the dismissal of the Nabulus, Al-Birah and Ramallah mayors, who were elected by the Palestinian people, prior to their replacement by elements appointed by the enemy authorities.

It has escaped the mind of the academic terrorist Milson that the question is not so easy. He does not seem to realize that there is a big difference between those elected by the Palestinian people and those enforced by the Israeli enemy.

Milson's threatening statements yesterday have shown that he has forgotten one basic fact: It is not just the mayors who are rejecting the occupation, the Camp David accords and the autonomy conspiracy, but all Palestinian people in the occupied territory who have foiled those conspiracies through their steadfastness and courage. We hardly need to remind Milson and others that our people's courageous uprising, whose heroism have resounded in the whole world, is best proof of what we are saying.

Milson has just discovered after 4 years that the [1976] municipal elections "were not free." He claimed that the PLO dominated and intimidated the voters. We need not argue Milson's false claims, because we know only too well that in his opinion free elections should produce elements similar to the village league members, who were discarded by our people in the occupied territory.

Our people in the West Bank and everywhere in the occupied territory fear only God. They are proving their heroism and courage daily. Therefore, any attempts by Milson and his henchmen to split our people will fail.

Milson's claim that the PLO and the mayors are instigating resistance against the occupation was an insolent remark about the patriotism of the Palestinian people. His claim has been disproved by the brave and courageous way in which this people is defending its rights, existence and homeland.

Milson's talk about holding free elections to establish the administrative council for autonomy under the Camp David accords is meaningless. The Palestinians, who have rejected autonomy and the Camp David accords, will not agree to participate in the elections of the administrative council. If they are held, these elections will be a desperate attempt by Israel to forge the wish of the Palestinian people. Only agents discarded by the Palestinian people will cooperate with Israel.

In his attempts to continue to deceive and mislead people, Milson claimed that the terrorist measures being taken against the citizens are for the purpose of creating an atmosphere in which the Palestinians will not be afraid to express their free will. We say that the Palestinians have already expressed their free will through their uprising against occupation, their support for the PLO and their insistance on an independent state within their homeland, Palestine.

The atmosphere so strongly sought by Milson will not be created by dismissing mayors, detaining people, storming mosques, confiscating land and firing on a people who, like the rest of the world's nations, are fighting occupation but by recognizing the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, withdrawing from their territory and abandoning the policy of expansion and domination, a policy based on antiquated and narrow-minded Talmudic concepts.

If Milson believes that the battle is between the Jewish people and Israel on the one hand and the PLO and its supporters on the other, then he should know that it is a battle of existence waged by the entire Palestinian nation and that the Palestinian people are not alone in this crucial battle.

AD-DUSTUR EDITORIAL ON WEST BANK MAYORS

JN261047 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 26 Mar 82 pp 1, 24

[Editorial: "The West Bank and Arab Responsibility"]

[Text] The Israeli military authorities' arbitrary measures of dismissing the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah and dissolving the Al-Birah Municipal Council will not change the bright truth demonstrated by the Palestinian people's uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It is the truth that the citizens are determined not only to reject the Civilian Administration plot but also to reject and valiantly confront occupation aborting its cunning maneuvers.

These measures prove that the enemy's authorities have lost their nerve after failing to heed the Palestinian people's will and after facing the rare heroism and courage of the citizens in the villages, cities and camps in their resistance of the occupation soldiers and their confrontation of bullets and bombs with their strong chests and arms.

The dismissal of the mayors has not weakened the will of the citizens. On the contrary, it has led them to escalate their resistance to the occupation forces, which caused Milson to ask for the help of paratroopers and tanks to besiege the villages and cities and to confront the women, children, old people and valiant men who are fighting in defense of their rights, existence and sacred cause.

Our steadfast kinfolk will continue their strike and resistance, particularly in the villages where the agent leagues exist, determined to reject cooperation with any Israeli authority. The enemy's provocations will only increase the solidity of their honorable stand of rejecting subjugation and capitulation.

The dismissal of the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah constitutes an Israeli challenge of the UN Security Council, which has begun to discuss the volatile situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It is also challenge to the United Nations and international will.

What is most surprising is the Arab states' silence over the serious events taking place in the West Bank and Gaza. The statements of denunciation and support will not rescue the citizens who are waging the battle of freedom in the West Bank and the strip.

We realize that Jordan, due to its situation and its cohesion with the Palestinian cause, has a role that it is unhesitatingly playing with all means in its power. This does not mean that Jordan must stand alone in the arena at a time when there are many Arab states that can exert pressure on the United States to curb its ally, Israel.

We call on Arab states to break their silence and move, at least on the diplomatic level, to help our steadfast kinfolk under occupation before it is too late.

The United States has a special responsibility toward the serious events in the West Bank, because in its role as a superpower and in view of its strong relations with the Israeli aggressor, it can exert pressure on Israel and force it to stop its savage practices. To obstain from doing so means that it is an accomplice in the Israeli terrorist acts against the people of Palestine.

AL-YARMUK FORCE DEPARTS AMMAN FOR IRAQ

JN271951 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] A new group of the Jordanian Al-Yarmuk Forces has left for fraternal Iraq to join their brothers in defending Arab rights on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

The new group was seen off this evening by the Jordanian Armed Forces' inspector general, who represented the commander in chief.

Addressing the volunteers, the inspector general said: I am greatly honored to convey to you the greetings of the supreme commander, His Majesty King Husayn.

He added: By volunteering in the Al-Yarmuk Forces in support of your brothers in fraternal Iraq you emphasize the meaning of true fraternity and embody this country's pan-Arab, noble character.

He then shook hands with all the volunteers, who reaffirmed their pride in His Majesty King Husayn's initiative and their support for his wise leadership. Several senior officers saw the new group of volunteers off.

SYRIA DENYS ENTRY TO JORDANIAN FUNERAL DELEATION

JN290721 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 29 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.) -- Syrian authorities have turned down a Jordanian Government request for dispatching an official delegation take part in the funeral of the late Arab national leader Sultan al-Atrash who died in Syria on Friday, an announcement here said on Sunday. In sending the mission, Jordan meant to pay respect to, and display appreciation of, the late leader's principles for which he lived and died, the announcement said.

HUSAYN RECEIVES U.S. WAR COLLEGE DELEGATION

JN272059 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] His majesty the king received today at the Royal Hashemite Court the visiting members from the U.S. National War College. During the meeting, his majesty explained to the visiting members the dangers which lie behind the failure to find a just and comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli problem.

His majesty reiterated that this problem constituted the main cause of instability in the region. His majesty also added that as long as Israel occupies Arab territories and denies the Palestinians' basic human rights, the chances of reaching peace in the Middle East remain unattainable.

His majesty said that Jordan's determination to defend Arab freedom and future will not change, and warned against the polarization of the Arab-Israeli problem.

The meeting was also attended by Lt Gen Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces. Minister of Information Mr 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah said today that Israeli rejects just peace and seeks to impose its own concept of peace through all means available to it. During a meeting in Amman today with the U.S. delegation, Mr Abu 'Awdah added the Israel uses its military occupation of Arab land to legalize its presence there by building more and more settlements.

Referring to the U.S. role, the minister explained that Washington had not played its part as a superpower in finding the required solution to the Middle East question. He said such U.S. policy gives Israel the necessary time to complete its annexation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Turning to the current situation in the West Bank, Mr Abu 'Awdah said Israeli policy there aims at the gradual de facto annexation of the area through the eviction of its Arab people.

The visiting U.S. defense university team were briefed by Foreign Minister Mr Marwan al-Qasim today on the serious situation in the Middle East as result of the aggressive Israeli policies. The minister told the delegation that since 1967 Jordan participated in all efforts that sought to achieve a just comprehensive and permanent peace based on full Israeli withdrawal and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

He said all these efforts failed because of the Israeli's intransigent and expansionist policy. The minister explained that the United States and the European countries should shoulder their responsibilities toward the cause of peace because their support for the Zionist state has enabled it to continue its occupation of the Arab land.

SARKIS WILL NOT RENEW, EXTEND TERM OF OFFICE

JN261806 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] In Lebanon, it seems that President Ilyas Sarkis will not renew or extend his term of office. George Bashir reports:

[Begin recording] In the second step of its kind since his election as president of the republic, President Ilyas Sarkis spoke in detail about the tough phases through which the government, the country and the state have passed during the past 5 years, in other words, since he took over responsibility for the state's heavy legacy on the political, security and economic levels. The president also outlined the Lebanese, Arab and international stages of the Lebanese issue in an interview to be published tomorrow by the weekly magazine AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI.

Speaking about the historical phases through which the Lebanese Government has passed during the past 6 years, President Sarkis referred to relations with Syria, the Palestinian resistance and other influential groups in the Lebanese arena. He also spoke about the grave situation faced by southern Lebanon and proposed a solution to this problem, removing all impending dangers. The Lebanese president also spoke about relations with the Arab Deterrent Forces, which were diminished in size with the withdrawal of certain Arab participants and were injected with units from the Palestine Liberation Army, contrary to Arab summit resolutions.

President Sarkis spoke in detail about the role which Lebanon expected from the Arab Followup Committee in carrying out Arab summit resolutions and assisting in achieving security, accord and national sovereignty. He also spoke about the role of the Arab mini committee to formulate a comprehensive Arab strategy for defending southern Lebanon.

In his interview with the weekly magazine AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI, President Sarkis said his refusal to renew or extend his term his term is a firm political stand. [end recording]

CHAMBER SPEAKER SEEKS 'CONSTITUTIONAL TRANSITION'

NC281342 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad has called for the creation of the proper conditions for a sound constitutional transition. He said the Lebanese people want salvation and do not care about the physical appearance of the next president, but about the continued existence of the republic and Lebanon.

In a speech he delivered last night, Speaker al-As'ad called for a dialogue with the influential forces at home and with forces abroad to facilitate a normal transition of regimes. Speaker al-As'ad warned that a constitutional vacuum will not lead to partition and division but to the liquidation of Lebanon.

AL-WAZZAN ASKS AL-JUMAYYIL TO RELINQUISH POWER

NC280925 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has called on [Lebanese Forces Commander] Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil to take the first step in the process of bolstering the legitimate authority.

In an interview that will be published tomorrow in the [English-language] weekly MONDAY MORNING, Al-Wazzan said that if Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil returns the authority he has seized from the state, other militias will follow suit and will be committed to take similiar steps. The prime minister denied that the terrorism carried out against the embassies has anything to do with the Lebanese crisis. He said Lebanon has become an arena in which all scores are being settled.

HADDAD CRITICIZES AL-WAZZAN'S REMARKS

NC290748 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 29 Mar 82

[Text] Commenting on [Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq] Al-Wazzan's recent demand to take over security in east Beirut, [Free Lebanon Commander] Major Haddad has stated: Before Shafiq al-Wazzan asks to take over the eastern area [of Beirut] from [Lebanese Forces Commander] Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, we ask him to tell us about the reasons that prevented him from taking over security in the eastern area in the recent past when [Lebanese Phalangist Party leader] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil asked him to do so and presented the eastern area to him on a silver platter. What has happened now that made Al-Wazzan change his mind and demand that the eastern area be handed over to the legitimacy. [the legitimate authorities]. On this occasion, we would like to ask Al-Wazzan which legitimacy is he talking about? Is it the Syrian legitimacy or the legitimacy of the swindlers [the Palestinians]? Our concept of legitimacy is that which stems from a free people, so in the name of which people does Al-Wazzan speak? Therefore, we tell him: God bestowed his mercy on a person who knew his limits and stopped there.

MILITARY DISCUSSES DEPLOYMENT ON SANNIN HEIGHTS

NC271609 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] A meeting was held today at the office of Maj Gen Sa'id Bayraqdar, commander of the Syrian forces composing the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF]. Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations Brig Gen 'Abbas Hamdan, Mount Lebanon District Commander Brigadier General Kallas, Al-Biqa' District Commander Brig Gen Butrus Yunis, First Infantry Brigade Commander Brig Gen Ibrahim Shahin, ADF Security Officer Col Lutfi Jabir, Al-Biqa' District Security Officer Maj Husayn Al-Khatib and Al-Biqa' District Liaison Officer Maj Husayn 'Abd al-Khalid attended the meeting on the Lebanese side.

Discussion centered on the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the heights of 'Uyun as-Siman, Farayya and Al-Laqluq to prevent gunmen from reaching these areas.

PALESTINIAN REINFORCEMENTS FORTIFY POSITIONS

NC290909 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 29 Mar 82

[Text] The Palestinian reinforcements in a number of villages and in the Az-Zahrani, An-Nabatiyah and Jazzin districts have begun to provoke tension and anxiety. These reinforcements have continued as armored vehicles and heavy artillery have been brought in and positioned in the town of Jba', which had recently experienced violent clashes between the Amal movement and Palestinian organizations. These reinforcements have expanded to the villages of Kafr Hatta, Kfar Matta, Kfar Milki, (Kafr Blat), (Zaghnuliya), and al-Mujaydil.

In old Sidon, tension is continuing in the wake of yesterday's clashes between Palestinian organizations in which one person was killed and five others were wounded.

VOL REPORTS FATAH FORCE ENTERED JBA' 27 MAR

NC271439 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] A Fatah military force composed of four troop carriers and a heavy arms unit equipped with heavy guns entered Jba' township this morning and took up position in the Az-Zaytun locality. This step comes in the aftermath of recent clashes in the area. Statements and appeals were made from Jba' mosque calling upon inhabitants who had left the township to return and appealing for opening the schools. However, caution continues to prevail and armed demonstrations have been seen.

It is worthwhile pointing out that the inhabitants had refused to allow Palestinian forces to enter their township, but Fatah brought in its forces in two stages at dawn and before noon.

BEIRUT THEATER EXPLOSION KILLS 2, WOUNDS 20

NC261407 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] An explosion took place at the central movie theatre in Burj Hammud [in Beirut] at 1330 this afternoon, killing 2 and wounding 20.

One of the two killed was found carrying an Egyptian identity card. Among the wounded are Joseph Damuri Sami al-Khiz, Tony Jirjis -- whose leg was amputated -- Hasan Darwish and Hisham 'Abd al-'Aziz, an Egyptian. Another Egyptian and Jean 'Arnut are in critical condition.

It has been learned that the bomb had the explosive force of 5 kg of dynamite. It was placed under the third seat at the rear of the theater.

Rescue workers rushed to transport casualties to the Mar Yusuf Hospital in Ad-Dawrah for medical treatment. Meanwhile, authorities rushed to investigate the damage.

The investigation is continuing. No further details are known.

Group Claims Responsibility

NC261409 Paris AFP in English 1346 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Beirut, 26 Mar (AFP) -- An organisation calling itself the Front for the Removal of Foreigners From Lebanon today claimed responsibility for a bomb blast inside a cinema in Beirut's Armenian quarter in which two people were killed and 15 wounded.

The front has previously claimed responsibility for two recent car bomb blasts in the western sector of Beirut.

In a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE here, a front spokesman said the wave of bomb blasts on Lebanese territory would continue until April 28 after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai.

First reports said that today's blast came from five kilos of dynamite placed inside a cinema in the Burj Hammud quarter of north-east Beirut. The area is in a zone under the control of Bashir al-Jumayyil's United Christian Militia.

Up till now this zone had been considered relatively safe in comparison with western Beirut which is in Palestinian-progressist hands and where there have been a series of bomb blasts over the last few weeks.

On March 16 one person was killed and 15 injured in a booby-trapped car explosion near the Egyptian diplomatic mission. The day before five people were injured in a blast at the French Cultural Centre, both in western Beirut.

Today, shooting was heard for more than an hour in a zone in the centre of the old city, a "no man's land" where Syrian troops of the Arab Dissuasion Force and Christian militia face each other.

The shooting made it impossible for motorists to cross from one sector of the city to another, the first time this has happened for several months.

INFORMATION MINISTER VIEWS WEST BANK SITUATION

LD281306 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Our permanent correspondent in Beirut, (Alain de Chalvron), has met Michel Iddih, Lebanese minister of information, who is pessimistic, very pessimistic as far as the West Bank and his country are concerned.

[Begin Iddih recording] I believe that we are in the second and final act of the Palestinian drama. Israel began the first act in 1948 by annexing a large part of Palestine and is now proceeding to annex the remaining part. Right now it is trying to decapitate the political and municipal organization in the West Bank, and in the end it will apply Israeli law there. What also is attracting attention is that the Jewish settlers in the West Bank are themselves participating directly in acts of violence which may in the end induce the Palestinian inhabitants to leave. And this is very grave, because this would put an end to the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state. It would abolish Palestinian territory as such. For us Lebanese, this is very grave, because in addition to the Palestinians who have already settled in our country, we run the risk of receiving a surplus of Palestinians coming from the West Bank, and this of course would not be good at all. [end recording]

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES BULGARIAN DELEGATION

JN271619 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Speaking at a lunch yesterday organized by the Lebanese Communist Party in honor of the Bulgarian delegation currently visiting Lebanon, Yasir 'Arafat declared that events in occupied Palestine, the Golan and the border strip confirm that our nation rejects occupation and its logic. He said: We stand in this forward trench in Arab democratic progressive Lebanon, which is hosting the Palestinian revolution in all loyalty, offering sacrifices and martyrs in its defense and in defense of Lebanon and of the freedom, progress and dignity of the region. We stand today in this difficult and critical circumstance confronting U.S. imperialist and Zionist conspiracy aimed at bringing the region under the control of U.S. and international monopoly represented by Israel.

'Arafat added: Before this large-scale imperialist plan to dominate the region, we look to our true friends headed by the socialist bloc and the USSR. 'Arafat added that the uprising in the occupied territory is a vital expression of our nation's rejection of the occupation and of American logic. He concluded: We will continue this struggle together until the Arab nation has achieved victory.

SOVIET UNION TO BEGIN ARMS SHIPMENTS 5 APR

NC261436 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Foreign diplomatic sources in Beirut have revealed that the Soviet Union will start sending the first consignment of modern military arms to Syria on 5 April. This is in accordance with the Soviet-Syrian agreement following the Soviet defense minsiter's visit to Syria.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY CABLE TO SECURITY COUNCIL

JN252059 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Text] Mahmud az-Zu'bi, speaker of the People's Assembly, has sent a cable to the chairman and members of the UN Security Council on the occasion of the convocation of the council at the Syrian Government's request to discuss Israel's repressive measures in the occupied Arab territory. The following is the text of the cable:

Honorable chairman and members of the Security Council, the People's Assembly of the Syrian Arab Republic sends its greetings to the chairman and members of the Security Council and would like to draw their attention to the fact that Israel is intensifying its acts of terrorism against Syrian and Palestinian citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

In the Golan, where the inhabitants' general strike has entered its sixth week to protest Israel's annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights and attempts to force them to accept Israeli citizenship, Israeli authorities are carrying out massive arrests, besieging villages and cutting off food supplies and medical services to them.

In the West Bank and Gaza, Israeli authorities have begun dissolving the elected municipal councils prior to application of the so-called Civilian Administration as a new step toward declaring the annexation of both regions to Israel, as they have done in Jerusalem and the Golan. Israeli authorities have retaliated to the inhabitants' protests by firing on the demonstrations that swept all towns and villages and killing, wounding and detaining large numbers of demonstrators and strikers. The number of convicted and detained Arab resistance figures in Israeli prisons has reached 4,000.

Israel's continuation of its expansionist policy and other acts, such as deportation and establishment of settlements in the occupied Arab territory, is bound to increase tension in the region and consequently threaten peace in the Middle East and the world. Thus, UN organs have condemned Israeli activities in more than 150 resolutions, which Israel rejected and impudently disregarded.

The People's Assembly, which is the legislative authority in Syria, unanimously supports the Syrian Government's request for a rediscusssion of these Israeli activities in the UN Security Council. The Assembly appeals to all council members to exercise the responsibilities entrusted to them by the world's nations by adopting effective measures to force Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories, remove all settlers and enable Syrian and Palestinian refugees to return to their homelands.

In view of Israel's refusal to carry out all previous resolutions and its disregard for these resolutions, the Security Council has no choice but to apply the sanctions against Israel stipulated in Chapter VII of the UN Charter. The People's Assembly also unanimously considers the United States' use of or threat of using the veto in the Security Council as one of the major factors that has encouraged Israel to continue its hostile activities and contravene international opinion. Therefore, the Assembly requests that the U.S. delegation stop adopting such stands that only increase tension in the region and threaten peace in it and the entire world.

GOLAN ARABS TO CONTINUE GENERAL STRIKE

JN280723 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Occupied Golan -- Syrian Arab citizens in occupied Golan have decided to continue their general strike, which has entered its eighth week, to protest the Zionist entity's decision to annex the Golan and to detain a large number of Arab citizens. The decision was made during a meeting Syrian Arab leaders held last night to discuss the situation in the occupied territores and the Israeli occupation authorities' repressive measures against the Arabs.

The Zionist occupation authorities are still maintaining their military siege on all Golan towns and villages as a reprisal against the Syrian Arab citizens' general strike.

DAMASCUS TV ON JORDANIAN SECURITY MEASURES

JN281951 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Mar 82

[TExt] Since the beginning of last week, Jordanian authorities have adopted strict security measures around Palestinian gathering points and schools in Jordan. Jordanian authorities also prevented Palestinian students from staging demonstrations in solidarity with the kinfolk's uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

Reports said Jordanian police chased and used sticks to disperse Palestinian student gatherings at some schools. These forces opened fire on Arab college students on 25 March, wounding a Palestinian Arab citizen named 'Imad al-Kashaji.

The Jordanian authorities have imposed new measures on students in order to prevent any attempt to stage a demonstration. These authorities are forcing students to leave their schools one at a time under the supervision of security organs.

Jordanian authorities have lately applied strict security measures in most of Amman's quarters. There are rumors that Jordanian authorities have arrested many people.

DAMASCUS RADIO ON JORDANIAN POLITICAL SUPPORT

JN280409 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Jordanian political parties and forces have praised Syria's steadfastness and confrontation against all imperialist and Zionist plans as well as its important revolutionary role in foiling these plans, which were aimed against our Arab nation in general and our steadfast country in particular. In a statement issued yesterday, these Jordanian political parties and forces declared their support for Syria's stands, stressing that these stands are considered the solid base for steadfastness in the Arab homeland, because it relies on the broadest popular front on the Pan-Arab level and is backed by the front of friends and the peace-loving progressive forces in the world, headed by the friendly USSR.

The statement says Syrian steadfastness has disturbed U.S. strategy and the Zionist rulers. This has prompted them to intensify their plots against Syria through their agents, mercenaries and all agent reactionary forces, especially since the Camp Daivd conspiracy and the policy of capitulatory solutions have reached a deadlock.

The Jordanian political parties and forces condemned the Muslim Brotherhood members, who are agents of Israel, and the atrocious crimes they have committed in Syria in the interest of their American and Zionist overlords.

Concluding their statement, the Jordanian political parties and forces praised Syria's firm anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist policy, which is determined to liberate the occupied Arab territory and guarantee the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to determine their destiny and to set up an independent state on their national soil.

'ARAFAT EULOGIZES LATE SULTAN AL-ATRASH

JN281802 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1635 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Speech by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, delivered at funeral of late leader Sultan al-Atrash in Syria on 28 March -- reach by announcer]

[Text] O leader. O departed beloved one. O knight who dismounted after holding the banner of this nation for many years. O great one who defended the nation's integrity, honor and Arabism. O knight who fought so the land may remain Arab. O great knight and leader. Today, we bid you farewell, yet we stress that we will continue to harbor dearly the principles you lived for and will continue on the same revolutionary path along which you led us. Your principles are immortal.

Today, from this Syrian land, the soil of revolution and Arabism, I come to tell you -- as the masses here bid you farewell on behalf of all Arabs between the ocean and the Gulf -- that Palestine, its revolution and people -- whom you loved and for whom you sacrificed -- will honor the vow, and will remain the same revolution on the same path.

These days, as the hostile powers are lying in wait for the Arab nation, for revolutionary Syria, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement led by my brother and the son of my late brother, Walid Junblatt, I tell you leader that this Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese alliance will pass through this raging furnace. My brothers the Druze in the Golan, my brothers in occupied Palestine, in Galilee, in Nazareth, 'Akko, Chefar'am, Sakhnin, Negev, Gaza, Rafah, Jerusalem, Jaffo, Nabulus, Hebron, Ramallah and Al-Birah and in every inch of the occupied land will continue the revolution. These people have transformed the stones of my homeland into time bombs that are frightening the occupation and threatening the Zionist aggression.

I bid you farewell great knight. I know that your abode is among the martyres, innocents and saints. We want you to convey a message from the revolutionaries to Salah ad-Din al-Ayyubi: O Salah ad-Din, this land will always be Arab. We will clean the aggressive Zionists from the land. Our path is long and difficult, yet the peoples' determination is stronger. This determination cannot be conquered and will triumph.

O leader, you spent 90 years for the sake of God and in defense of the usurped right. It is revolution until victory.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANESE NASIRITES 27 MAR

JN271307 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1200 today a delegation of the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun in Lebanon headed by Ibrahim Qulaylat, chairman of the movement's command council.

The delegation comprises Samir Sabbagh, Mazin Taha, Akram Khalid and Hasan Habbal. 'Abd Al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

SHARON TO MAKE PROPOSAL ON ARMING OF SETTLERS

TA281820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The defense minister will present to the Cabinet a proposal to settle the question of the status of the Judaea, Samaria and Gaza District settlers with respect to carrying arms for self-defense. Our political correspondent has learned that the NRP ministers raised this issue at the Cabinet session, and a decision was made to try to find a way to consider the settlers as reserve duty personnel when bearing arms for self-defense when traveling in Judaea and Samaria. Minister Sharon emphasized that this is not carrying arms for the purpose of initiated reaction, but as self-defense.

CABINET SAYS IT WILL CONTINUE WEST BANK POLICY

TA281600 Tel Aviv Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Today the Cabinet declared that the policy being followed in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will continue without being deterred. The prime minister and the ministers of defense and foreign affairs reviewed the various events there. Our political correspondent Gad Becker reports:

[Becker -- live] Today the Cabinet approved the continuation of the policy being followed in Judaea and Samaria, despite the difficulties and despite pressures from at home and abroad. The goal of the policy was described in the discussion by the prime minister as follows: A) To guarantee peace and give all possible help to Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza who abide by the law and preserve calm; B) no acts of violence or breaches of the law and order by any person whatsoever will be tolerated.

The defense minister presented a report on casualties, both among IDF soldiers and the demonstrators. He also announced that it has become clear that the Arab who stabbed a soldier in Janin and was killed after that was a terrorist.

It was reported that directives governing the opening of fire by the [Jewish] settlers were being examined; but, at the same time, Sharon told of one settlement resident who was held under arrest for 8 months because he was accused of the murder of an Arab. The man was found innocent and after that, Sharon said, he was afraid to use his weapon for self-defense when he needed to do so. The prime minister asked the attorney-general to investigate this affair and examine whether the man could be compensated.

Begin expressed great regret at the loss of life but said that if there was any danger to a soldier, it was his duty to use his weapon. In reply to remarks by Minister Corfu, who said that he understood that the events in the field would calm down in the immediate future, Sharon said that tension would subside with time, but he did not mention any date or time in the near future. Sharon added that this was the only way to create a situation that would permit a political solution in Judaea and Samaria.

The prime minister accused the world of hypocrisy in its condemnation of Israel, and asked the foreign minister: Does Israeli information mention the actions of the Jordanian Government in September 1970 or the Syrians' actions in Hamah? The foreign minister replied affirmatively. Shamir reviewed the other actions by his ministry on this issue and reported that the United States is behaving honestly [haginut] concerning the developments in Judaea and Samaria and that there was a promise from Washington to veto the extremist resolution Jordan has submitted to the UN Security Council for the conclusion of the debate on the situation in Judaea and Samaria.

The Cabinet will again, in the near future, hold another discussion on this issue.

CABINET SHARPLY ATTACKS BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

TA281644 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 29 Mar 82

[Text] The broadcasting authority was sharply attacked in today's Cabinet meeting during the discussion of the authority's interim budget. One of the ministers suggested not approving any budget for the authority, while others proposed approving a budget for a month. But, ultimately, it was decided to approve a 3-month budget. Our political correspondent reports that the prime minister vigorously attacked the approval given to allow the dismissed mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah to be interviewed by radio and television. Mr Begin said it was unheard of that Israel's enemies be given the opportunity to speak.

Justice Minister Moshe Nisim said that the authority's management committee and directorate had failed in their task. Gid'on Pat proposed changing the broadcasting authority law and placing the authority under government control. "The government is the state," said Minister Pat. However, on this point the industry minister was corrected by the prime minister.

Minister Zvulun Hammer said the ministers should remember that the authority is managed by agents of the parties now making up the coalition. Hammer agreed that the interviews with Ash-Shak-ah and Khalaf were uncalled for.

The authority's Deputy Chairman Mikha Yinon agreed with most of the Cabinet's complaints. Tomorrow the executive committee will discuss the incident of the interviews. Authority Director General Yosef Lapid explained that while the executive must stand up for the state's interests, it must also preserve the laws protecting press freedom as accepted in the Western world. The Cabinet approved 225 million Israeli shekels for the authority as had been agreed upon between the finance minister and the director general of the authority.

CABINET DEBATES, ISSUES RESOLUTIONS ON W. BANK

TA281519 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1455 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Jerusalem Government Press Office release on 28 March Cabinet session]

[Text] In its weekly Cabinet session:

A. The Cabinet heard reports on the political and security situation from the prime minister, the foreign minister and the defense minister. A debate was held, at the end of which the Cabinet made the following resolutions: The policy in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will continue unimpeded, namely:
1. Peace and all possible aid will be guaranteed to the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza who honor the law and maintain quiet.
2. No acts of violence or disruptions of law and order of any sort whatsoever will be tolerated.
B. Following a discussion, the Cabinet approved an interim budget of 225 million shekels for the broadcasting authority for 3 months. The decision was made by a majority of nine votes to seven. The minority supported approving only a 1-month budget.
C. In accordance with the prime minister's recommendation, the Cabinet approved the appointment of Mr Dan Meridor as the new Cabinet secretary. The appointment will be effective as of 4 April 1982.

The prime minister and Cabinet members bade farewell to outgoing Cabinet Secretary Mr Arye Na'or, and wished the incoming secretary success.

PERES CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT'S WEST BANK POLICY

TA281223 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres says that if the Jewish people become an occupier and an oppressor this will totally contradict the original values of our people. To correct the situation, the policy in the territories which is pushing the residents into the arms of the PLO should undergo a basic change. The Arabs of the territories, Peres said, do not want us and should be allowed to run their affairs on their own without the help of IDF officers. The territories must not be turned into an Arab ghetto. Shim'on Peres spoke with Ashdod High School students.

Views Early Elections

TA282040 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2030 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Ashdod, 28 Mar -- "The only way out of the present situation is for the government to resign and for the Alignment to make an attempt to form an alternative government. If this should not succeed, early elections must be declared at once. In the current state of affairs the Alignment is not prepared to be in any government with the Likud," Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres said today at a news conference he called during a tour of Ashdod.

Peres totally rejected charges that the elections held in Judaea and Samaria when he was defense minister were a failure, helping PLO members come to power. Peres quoted publications concerning the Camp David deliberations, where it was stated -- so he said -- that in speaking with the then U.S. secretary of defense, Prime Minister Menahem Begin praised the elections held in Judaea and Samaria, commending them as representative of Israeli democracy. "The Likud should cease using one language when talking with the U.S. secretary of state and using another one when it is directed internally," he said

BEN-PORAT MAY DECIDE FATE OF LIKUD GOVERNMENT

TA281123 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 28 Mar 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by party affairs correspondent Amnon Barzilay]

[Text] A reasonable chance that the coalition might pass the 1982/83 state budget bill emerged during the weekend following Telem MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat's decision to reconsider his vote. Mr Ben-Porat will today consult with his party colleagues MK Yiga'el Hurvitz and Mr Zalman Shoval on his vote.

Following the change in Mr Ben-Porat's position, heavy pressure was put on him by Labor Party leaders in an attempt to make him withdraw his support for the Cabinet or to abstain from the vote. Consultations on this issue were held by the Labor Party "leading triumvirate," MK's Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin and Hayim Bar-Lev. MK Professor Shevah Weiss (Labor) warned party leaders yesterday that should the elections be advanced, the Likud would defeat the Alignment. The change occurring in MK Ben-Porat's stance on the budget vote increases the government's prospects to "weather safely" the last parliamentary test it faces before the Knesset recess, due to begin at the end of this week, and to last until the beginning of May, after the conclusion of the withdrawal from Sinai.

MK Ben-Porat told me yesterday that he was guided by the recommendations of his faction, the "Movement for Social Renewal," which recommended not to vote against the budget. At the same time, however, he is aware that he would have to weigh his vote with due consideration for the positions of Hurvitz and Shoval. He stressed: "My group will add substantial weight to my decision."

Ben-Porat also said the obstacle that makes it hard for him to vote with the Cabinet on the budget is "the intention of the treasury to scheme against the Histadrut's sick fund, and I want to see to what extent the Treasury is willing to accomodate Kupat Holim.

Ben-Porat's intention of possibly not voting against the budget stems, according to him, from two additional reasons. In the wake of talks he held last week with the prime minister and with Shim'on Peres, he realized that under the present circumstances there is but a small chance to set up a national unity government. It deserves to be noted that his vote against the Cabinet last week was meant to so severely weaken the government as well as the Alignment, so as to force the establishment of a government of national unity. A second reason is his belief that the Labor Party is today incapable of forming an alternate Cabinet with a stable political and economic line, and hence the stability of the present government should be preserved.

In answer to a question, Ben-Porat said his cooption to the Cabinet had not come up in the talks he had had with the prime minister. "I want to solve the ideological issues first," he said. At the same time he said it is clear that if one joins the coalition, he may eventually also join its Cabinet.

If Ben-Porat supports the budget bill, the coalition will gain an additional vote and will have 59 votes instead of the 57 that are guaranteed to the coalition, if MK Hayim Druckman votes with the opposition. The NRP is continuing its pressure on MK Druckman to abstain or be absent from the vote. In that case, the coalition majority will be even larger.

SHAHAL, BEN-PORAT COMMENT ON COALITION TALKS

TA280703 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The head of the Alignment factor in the Knesset, Moshe Shahal, denied reports that the Alignment has begun contacts with coalition members on forming a new government with Labor. Shahal said his party will begin such contacts only after the prime minister goes to the president to resign. Meanwhile Energy Minister Yitzhaq Berman denied reports that he was approached by Labor to help bring down the government and form a new coalition with the Alignment. Berman did say that personal friends of his from the opposition had broached the subject with him but he said he rejected the idea. Telem MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat says despite rumors to the contrary he has not made a final decision on how to vote on the budget proposal this week. Ben-Porat said his movement had suggested that he vote in favor of the law to keep the economy moving but he said he is still not sure how he will vote and will meet this morning with Telem leaders to make a decision.

CABINET REPORTEDLY TO DISCUSS BEN-PORAT REQUEST

TA281013 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] In its weekly session the Cabinet is supposed to discuss the request raised yesterday by Telem MK Mordekhay Ben-Porat to help in the allocations to the Histadrut sick fund. He raised the request in talks with the prime minister's office regarding his vote in the Knesset on the budget proposal. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that the Cabinet decision may be an important factor in the decision that will be made this evening by the Telem steering team on the faction's vote tomorrow, a vote on which the adoption of the budget proposal now depends. MK Ben-Porat who had earlier intended to abstain in the vote, this morning agreed with his party colleague Yiga'el Hurvitz and the steering team's head, Zalman Shoval, to accept the team's decision this evening. Ben-Porat and Shoval have assessed that an agreement which will prevent a split in the faction will be attained. MK Hurvitz intended to vote against the budget proposal. The Cabinet is supposed to deal also with the situation in the territories.

ALIGNMENT TO VOTE AGAINST BUDGETARY PROPOSALS

TA271623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Alignment Knesset faction Chairman Moshe Shahal ways his faction will vote next week against the budgetary proposals of the government and will make no deal with the finance minister regarding a presentation of an agreed upon budget. He denied reports published in the press on this subject, saying they are lies. Our correspondent, Razi Barqay, reports that the vote of Mordekhay Ben-Porat of Telem has now become the pivotal one, and a sharp argument over his vote is expected tomorrow between him and his party colleague Yiga'el Hurvitz, who is opposing the budget. Ben-Porat wants to abstain, thus enabling the coalition to win approval for the budget.

TELEM REACHES NO DECISION ON BUDGET VOTE

TA281841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] After a meeting that lasted nearly 4 hours today, Telem made no decision that will be binding on its members on the votes on the state budget. It was decided that Knesset members Ben-Porat and Hurvitz will decide how they will vote following consultations they will hold in the course of the Knesset debate [on 29 March]. Earlier, our correspondnet Amnon Nadav reported that the view that Ben-Porat would abstain in the vote and Yiga'el Hurvitz would vote against the budget laws seemed to be final. If Ben-Porat abstains, this will allow the Cabinet to win the votes.

DISCOVERY OF PLO PLAN PROMPTED W. BANK MOVES

TA281433 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Mar 82 pp 1, 15

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Israel has uncovered a secret PLO plan to cause civil unrest in the territories this May, a short time after the conclusion of the withdrawal from Sinai. It was following the discovery of this plan by the terrorist organizations that Jerusalem decided on a vigorous preemptive action and on the adoption of a strong-hand policy against PLO leaders in the territories. The prime minister's spokesman, Uri Porat, who was asked about this, confirmed that such a plot had indeed been uncovered.

The mayors of Al-Birah, Nabulus and Ramallah -- At-Tawil, Ash-Shak'ah and Khalaf, who have been dismissed -- were directly connected with the planning of their activities. According to the plan, the PLO plotted to cause unprecedented riots in the territories and to disrupt normal life in Israel. Concurrently, the PLO planned -- with the assistance of Saudi Arabia -- to open an international political campaign against Israeli policy in the territories and against the autonomy plan.

The PLO began exerting heavy pressures on the United States and on Egypt to withdraw from the autonomy negotiations and to adopt a new policy which would center around the establishment of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. A senior political source in Jerusalem disclosed that within the framework of unrest in the territories, the PLO wanted to press for the adoption of Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's plan and the principles of the Venice declaration, so as to formulate a new policy document for the solution of the Palestinian problem.

The PLO was promised massive assistance from Saudi Arabia. According to assessments in Jerusalem, Israel's firm policy managed to take the terrorist organization by surprise, to completely disrupt the PLO's plans and to hit the main areas of its influence, notably in Nabulus and in Ramallah.

EXTENSION OF LAW TO W. BANK NOT BEING CONSIDERED

TA281415 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 28 Mar 82 p 15

[Text] "The extension of Israeli law to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza is not being considered at present. Israel is committed to honor its signature on the Camp David agreements which stipulate that the ultimate status of the territories will be determined only after 5 years." This was stated by the prime minister in a talk with Cabinet members last week, in reaction to a statement by Israel's ambassador in the United States, Moshe Arens, who mentioned the possibility of annexing Judaea and Samaria to Israel. It has been reported in Jerusalem that Ambassador Arens' statements had not been coordinated with the prime minister's office or with the foreign minister, and they do not reflect the policy of the government.

W. BANK MAYORS SAY TERRITORIES TO BE ANNEXED

TA281739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Mar 82

["Evening Newsreel" report by Arab affairs correspondent Arye Gus on events in the territories -- recorded]

[Excerpt] The mayors in the territories today issued a manifesto against the Civil Administration and against any sort of cooperation with its branches. The Civil Administration is a step toward annexation, they said, expressing their support for the mayors of Nabulus, Ramallah and Al-Birah who were dismissed for their refusal to cooperate with that administration. Among the signatories of that manifesto was Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa. Still, he met this evening with Brig Gen Yosef Lunz, who heads the Civil Administration of the Gaza District.

[Ash-Shawwa -- in English] The Civil Administration is a continuation of the military occupation and as people who have to live in the occupied territories we have to get in touch with the military authorities on the basis that everything is in their hands and with the Civil Administration -- or what is called the Civil Administration -- [fading into superimposed Hebrew translation by Gus who continues]

I regard the head of the Civil Administration Josef Lunz as a general or Brigadier General Lunz, Ash-Shawwa said. Be that as it may, the Gaza municipality also extended the general strike by 2 days, to last until after Land Day.

'RELATIVE QUIET' IN W. BANK; AL-FAJR BANNED

TA270812 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Relative quiet prevails in Judaea and Samaria. The strike still continues but there have been no reports on disturbances. Meanwhile, this is the second day the Military Government is preventing the AL-FAJR newspaper from being distributed in the territories. Yesterday, the Military Government banned the distribution of the three east Jerusalem newspapers. AL-FAJR Editor-in-Chief Ziyad Abu Ziyad complained to our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari this morning about the Military Government's double standards in permitting AL-QUDS to be distributed. According to him there is no reason for this, as all three east Jerusalem papers publish the same reports.

MILITARY GOVERNOR CONFINES KHALAF TO JERICHO

TA270913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] The Military Government has prevented ousted Ramallah Mayor Karim Khalaf from leaving Jericho.

The Jericho military governor summoned Karim Khalaf to his office this morning and told him that if he wants to leave the city limits he will have to request permission in advance. The above measure has no time limit. Our correspondent, Pinhas 'Inbari, reports that Karim Khalaf's deputy, 'Awda Rantisi, has been ordered to remain at home today. A similar measure was taken against the deputy of the dismissed Al-Birah mayor, Jamil At-Tarif.

Khalaf Reacts

NC271402 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1245 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Ramallah Mayor Brother Karim Khalaf rejected the new Zionist oppressive decision banishing him to the city of Jericho and placing him under house arrest until further notice. He said: My place is in Ramallah among the sons of my city who elected me. Brother Khalaf made this statement following his summoning to the headquarters of the Zionist military rule authorities in Jericho where he was informed about the decision placing him under house arrest in Jericho until further notice.

Brother Khalaf said: The Israeli actions will not weaken the masses which will continue the struggle to end the occupation and topple the Civil Administration. He added: Plots cannot succeed for long. Brother Khalaf pointed out that the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory will not calm down as long as there is one Palestinian child living on this territory. Brother Khalaf said: Our people are a people who make sacrifices. They have wiped out the dust of humiliation and disgrace and carried the flag of their cause more than 18 years ago. All attempts to return the Palestinian giant to prison will fail.

Brother Khalaf added: Let the entire world, friend and enemy, know that we will not relinquish our rights for self-determination and the establishment of our independent Palestinian state under the PLO's leadership. He also said: The measures by the occupation authorities will not be able to quell the masses escalating revolution despite the increasing methods of repression and terrorism. No force, no matter how strong, will be able to obstruct the march of the Palestinian people toward wresting their freedom and independence and the realization of their aims and aspirations. Brother Khalaf called upon Arab states to rise to their responsibility saying the Zionist danger does not threaten the Palestinian people alone but it threatens all Arab peoples. He emphasized that the Arab nation must hear the danger bell and rise and avenge itself and its dignity.

DEPOSED NABULUS MAYOR ASKED TO REMAIN AT HOME

TA281214 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The military authorities this morning prevented deposed Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah from leaving his house. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports he wanted to leave the house with his attorney and visit the center of Nabulus but that he was asked by the border police, continuously stationed near his house, to remain indoors. Security sources explained to our correspondent that the deposed mayor was not put under house arrest but was asked to remain home for a short while for operational reasons connected with guarding him.

NABULUS MILITARY GOVERNMENT WARNS CITY WORKERS

TA281015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Nabulus military authorities have summoned the heads of the municipality's departments in order to make clear to them their duty to discharge their tasks also under the mayor appointed by Israel. The Nabulus military governor had earlier warned that anyone who does not work faces arrest.

This morning too, the military authorities banned the distribution of the east Jerusalem papers in the territories.

GALILEE ARAB COUNCILS TO IGNORE STRIKE CALL

TA280713 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Ten Israeli Arab Council heads in the Galilee announced they will not go along with the general strike call by the committee of local Arab councils and the group called the Arab Land Protection Committee. The committee had called on Israeli Arabs to strike on Tuesday 30 March which is Land Day. The council head of the Sha'ab Village said that a number of local councils decided to ignore the call so as not to worsen relations between Arabs and Jews.

JORDAN WARNED ON CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY THREAT

TA281802 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that Jerusalem takes a very grave view of the threats that have been voiced by the Jordanian Government that property belonging to members of the area village leagues will be confiscated. Sources in Jerusalem said they wish to remind Jordan that both the state itself and its leaders as well as King Husayn have property in Judaea and Samaria. Israel will not permit the confiscation of property belonging to members of the area village leagues without taking retaliatory measures in Judaea and Samaria.

BEN-ELISAR DEFENDS GOVERNMENT'S W. BANK POLICY

TA271028 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 27 Mar 82

["Weekly Newsreel" interview with the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, on Israel's policy in the territories; interview conducted by Avner Tavori, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Ben-Elisar] The chief goal is first of all to not allow hostile influence to gain further ground. These influences are the PLO, Jordan, Saudi financing and many more types hostile to the Israeli presence in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. The second goal is to permit a moderate leadership to surface and, of course, to gain strength. Such a leadership exists, even though so far it has been intimidated through terror. This is why it is necessary to defend the leadership that is trying to gain ground as well as block this terrorism that frightens the moderate Arab leadership.

[Question] The past policy, and perhaps also the one that is to be expected as part of the autonomy plan, involves having the inhabitants running their own lives. Now we are witnessing that what actually takes place is the deepening interference by the Civil Administration -- and perhaps also the involvement of the army -- in the Arab inhabitants' lives.

[Answer] The idea is to transfer as many functions as possible from the Military Government to the Civil Administration -- which, at this stage, is still Jewish -- but later the plan is definitely to transfer more functions from the Jewish Civil Administration to local Arabs who will be able to handle their own affairs. What is happening now is that we are trying to create such conditions so that tomorrow the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District will indeed be able to conduct their own affairs as they wish, free of terrorism and fear instilled in them by the PLO.

[Question] The immediate result was the dismissal of the mayors who claim to have been elected by the local residents. IDF officers have been appointed to conduct the affairs of those municipal councils. Is this in line with the course you are talking about?

[Answer] Without referring to the degree of legitimacy of the elections held in 1976, at which time these mayors were elected, it is inconceivable that a mayor should decide with which member of the Israeli administration he will maintain ties and with whom he is not prepared to hold talks. The Israeli Government is represented by those persons it has selected. Every mayor -- and not only Arabs from Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District, but also every Jewish or Arab mayor who is an Israeli citizen -- must keep in touch with the authorities through those persons who represent the administration. It is therefore unthinkable that the mayor of Al-Birah or Nabulus or any other mayor will decide that he will accept instructions from and maintain contact with a representative of the Military Government who is in uniform but refuse to do so with a representative of the Government of Israel who is a civilian. We simply cannot let them or any other head of a local council dictate to us.

[Question] If nothing is achieved through persuasion, then force is applied?

[Answer] I would not say that the suspension of a mayor is using force. It is an act primarily intended to guarantee the proper and adequate functioning of the local councils and cities because in the absence of contact between the mayor or the head of the local council and the representatives of the Israeli administration the town cannot be managed properly. What we are now doing is defending all those Arab inhabitants who wish to live in peace and quiet, helping them live.

[Question] One of the arguments raised against the government's measures is that in fact the Cabinet has been making an attempt to nurture a leadership shielded by IDF rifles or under the guardianship of IDF spears and that it will never work.

[Answer] Such criticism may be voiced but it is vile and vicious because similar criticism was not voiced at the time that a pro-PLO leadership was developing. The Arab inhabitants in Judaea and Samaria were forced to accept that leadership because of PLO terrorism and the threat to kill anyone who is not prepared to subjugate himself. Yet this was not condemned as terrorism; is terrorism only from Israeli guns? This, naturally, is extreme folly and idiocy and the criticism is malicious and voiced perhaps by those who either out of insensibility or out of lack of thought or out of malice are interested in turning Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District into a Palestinian state. Yet I am convinced the majority of the people in Israel do not want this, but want another solution. In fact, today there is no other solution -- it simply does not exist -- except for the one agreed upon by Israel, Egypt and the United States at Camp David, namely the autonomy plan. If we do not today do what needs to be done then tomorrow we will not be able to grant that autonomy. I think no alternative policy is possible but the one that subordinates those PLO-supporting Arabs -- which I believe are few -- in Judaea and Samaria and tell them that going along with the PLO will lead them to no other place but jail.

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS PLO WILL BE OVERCOME

TA281526 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The defense minister today expressed the view that security forces would succeed in overcoming the PLO's foci power in the occupied territories. Speaking to his fellow ministers, Sharon said that during the last week the IDF adopted new methods of activity which he said have already proven themselves. In his opinion no political plan concerning Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District would be carried out as long as the main centers were controlled by the terrorist organizations.

SHAMIR REJECTS U.S. PRESSURE ON SECURITY POLICY

TA280650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The PLO planned the disturbances in Judaea and Samaria as part of systematic pressure on Israel pegged toward 26 April, but Israel launched a preemptive strike in reply, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said yesterday in Qiryat Shemona.

The foreign minister assured the residents of the Galilee panhandle that the government is determined not to allow another war of attrition on the northern border. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports from Qiryat Shemona:

[Begin recording] [Hecht] Upon the completion of the Sinai withdrawal, on 26 April, Israel is reaching the limit of its concessions, the foreign minister states. Pressure by the United States, European countries and Egypt will be to no avail. We made our concessions -- Shamir said -- and let others now make their share of concessions. The PLO which wanted to participate in systematic pressure on Israel planned the rioting in Judaea and Samaria pegged toward the date of completing the Sinai withdrawal, but Israel -- the foreign minister said -- does not act according to the timetable dictated by the PLO.

[Shamir] The disturbances in the territories are connected with the date of 26 April. Some thought and still think that 26 April, after Israel evacuates the Sinai, will be the day of Israel's retreat and then full pressure should be exerted so that Israel will withdraw in Judaea and Samaria and other places as well. We will not withdraw or move.

[Hecht] The foreign minister, who was the guest of Qiryat Shemona, heard the residents' concern in view of reports on terrorists' strengthening in southern Lebanon. One of the inhabitants told the minister that the atmosphere is especially distressing since the feeling is that the important decisions on this region's security are made in Washington.

[Shamir] As for security in this region, it is we and not Washington, who are the decision-makers. The decision is made by the Israeli Government just as it was in the past, is in present and will be in future. We know what is happening beyond the border but we also know that the terrorists are sitting in their positions and bunkers and tremble for fear. They are afraid of moving or lifting a finger since they know that would mean their end. Since July 1981 quiet has prevailed in this region due to their fear and this is how things will continue. [end recording]

PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISER COMMENTS ON ARAB STRIKE

TA271330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] The prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, Binyamin Gur-Arye, said he is convinced the Arab sector in Israel will by and large exercise restraint and will not violate the public order despite actions of instigations that might occur here and there by small extremist groups. He told our correspondent that for 7 hears now there has been no cause to mark Land Day, because the Cabinet has ceased to expropriate land, so that this small group of extremists actually wants to latch onto other issues in order to stir up agitation. The lull in relations between the state and the Israeli Arabs and the rise in the number of moderates among their ranks is a phenomenon strongly disliked by the group that wants to fish in murky water.

ANSA REPORTS LA REPUBBLICA INTERVIEW WITH FRAYJ

AU271603 Rome ANSA in English 1545 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Rome, 27 Mar (ANSA) -- The Arabs must move now...In ten years time it will be too late. There will be no Arab soil upon which to build an independent Palestinian state, according to Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj today. In a telephone interview to the Rome daily "LA REPUBBLICA" he admitted that his predictions for the fate of the occupied Arab territories were pessimistic. He said he expected other mayors in the occupied West Bank to be ousted by Israel in coming days.

Asked how he would respond to entreaties to cooperate with the Israeli occupation government, he said that he would refuse as had his colleagues.

Frayj is one of the most influential of the Palestinian leaders in the occupied territory. He said he was against the idea of any voluntary resigtration of his post as Bethlehem's mayor. "We must continue to shoulder our responsibilities to the last", he said.

Under the guise of extending its jurisdication, Israel is scheming to annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Frayj asserted. This was how the Israelis operated in the occupied Golan Heights region which they unilaterally annexed some months ago. If the Arabs do not move soon, they will have nothing left to claim, even in the West Bank and in Gaza, over the next ten years, Frayj emphasized.

Saying it as "too risky", he refrained from commenting on the relations between the PLO and Arabs living in the occupied West Bank. The Bethlehem mayor also said Palestinians could expect nothing from the U.N. Security Council. "We know from the start that any resolution adopted will remain a dead letter because Israel has never respected the will of the international community", he said.

PEACE NOW MOVEMENT CRITICIZES BEGIN REMARKS

TA281636 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The Peace Now Movement reacted to the prime minister's condemnation [of their 27 March demonstration in Tel Aviv] by saying that Begin still owes a reply to the thousands of Israelis who gathered in Tel Aviv to protest his policy in the territories. Peace Now says that a condemnation of the demonstration mentioning this or that slogan does not explain the grave deterioration which, according to it, the government has caused in the territories. Peace Now says that the only flag in the demonstration was that of Israel and it dissociates itself from the demonstrator who waved a banner with the flags of Israel and Palestine next to each other.

SASON DELIVERS BEGIN MESSAGE TO EGYPT'S MUBARAK

TA281420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak this morning received our ambassador to Cairo, who delivered a message from Prime Minister Menahem Begin. In his message, the prime minister replied to Mubarak's message delivered through his political adviser, Usamah al-Baz. At the end of the meeting, Ambassador Sason said the withdrawal from the Sinai will be carried out according to what is tipulated in the peace agreement between the two countries, but he refused to elaborate on the content of Begin's letter.

LEADERS ARRIVE IN NOUAKCHOTT FOR SAHARA SUMMIT

Algerian President

LD281304 Algiers APS in English 1033 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Nouakchott, 28 Mar (APS) -- President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, [word indistinct] general, arrived yesterday in Nouakchott where he was greeted by the Mauritanian president, Mr Khouna Ould Haydala, president of the Military Committee of National Salvation. The head of state will preside, in Nouakchott, [over] the Algerian delegation at the Saharan 6th summit conference which has to start today in the Mauritanian capital.

In a short declaration to the press, President Chadli Bendjedid declared that he is convinced that the Nouakchott summit will reinforce all the results achieved since the previous meeting of Bamako. The president of the republic expresses the vow that this summit will contribute to the achievement of all the decisions. President Chadli Bendjedid pointed out the great interest that Algeria devoted to sincere and fruitful cooperation between the Saharan states.

On another turn, President Chadli Bendjedid audienced yesterday in his residence in Nouakchott, Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, head of the Mauritanian state.

Libya's Jallud

LD281630 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud arrived in the Mauritanian capital of Nouakchott this afternoon to take part in the work of the sixth conference of the states bordering the Sahara desert. Staff Major Jallud was met at Nouakchott international airport by Brother Masyouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, member of the MCNS [Military Committee of National Salvation] and prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. Taking part in the welcome were MCNS members, ministers and diplomats accredited to Mauritania, secretary and staff of the Arab Libyan brotherhood bureau in Mauritania, and male and female students of the Libyan Arab unity school.

Great crowds lined both sides of the road, carrying photographs of the brother leader, and chanting "Long live the Great September Revolution and the unity of destiny between the two fraternal peoples."

Chad President

LD281550 Tripoli JANA in English 1421 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 28 Mar (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY) -- President Goukouni Oueddei of the National Provisional Government of Chad has arrived in Nouakchott today to take part in the African summit for countries bordering the Sahara. He is accompanied by his minister of public works.

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS OPENING SESSION 28 MAR

Mauritania's Haydala

AB281500 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1139 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Speech by Mauritanian head of state Mohamed Khouna Haydala at the opening of the sixth summit of Saharan states held in Nouakchott -- live]

[Excerpts] Fellow heads of state and government, ministers, your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen.

On behalf of the Mauritanian people, their Military Committee for National Salvation and their government, I wish you a fraternal and warm welcome to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, this land of crossroads and dialogue, [words indistinct] harmonious and rich in cultural and human diversity of Africa, which has assumed the sacred mission of bringing together two worlds complementary to eacn other and to which it has the honor of belonging -- the African and Arabic worlds.

Mr President, our conference held in Bamako in March 1980 enabled us to adopt a program of economic, technical, cultural and social cooperation and to set up five specialized commissions entrusted with the task of proposing concrete actions in the fields considered to be priorities. The Nouakchott summit, on its part, will mark [words indistinct] which will effectively translate the objectives defined by the Saharan states. As we will notice from the documents prepared from this perspective and submitted for our examination, our cooperation which has made a promising start can be developed in all sectors affecting the future of our subregion. The fields already (?defined) cover a vast area of cooperation which is our duty to make fruitful and beneficial to the interests of our countries.

To this end, it is our duty to do everything to clean up the Saharan political climate by transcending subregional conflicts and helping eliminate other areas of tension. To perpetuate such a climate will only serve the interest of our present or potential enemies who are trying every means to interfere in problems which are purely African. Such is the case, especially in Western Sahara and Chad, where imperialist actions are aimed, through (?tacit) machinations, at breaking the cohesion of African unity by playing us against one another within the OAU. In the face of such a situation and to foil this plan, we fervently hope the leaders of our continent will assume their responsibilities and that our Chadian brothers, on the one hand, and Moroccan and Saharan, on the other hand, will lay down their arms and settle their dispute calmly through dialogue without any foreign interference, and in which the supreme interests of the people concerned will prevail.

In the same way, we have noticed in the last few years that the great powers are becoming more interested in Africa. Their actions are already being felt in our subregion. This is a permanent source of concern to us for it dangerously threatens peace, security and stability in our countries.

The dangers (?hanging over us) should cause us to be aware of the urgent need for Africa to remain outside the confrontation of blocs and to persevere in the path of nonalignment and positive neutrality. To this end, the African states should as much as possible prevent the installation of foreign military bases on their territories and use their efforts for the economic and social integration of their countries.

Mr Presidents and Ministers, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, in a world where the struggle for influence dangerously threatens our continent, we should by all means spare our subregion anything that can create a climate of suspicion among our states so that everything will objectively help to join and unite us in a calm and confident atmosphere. Therefore, we should without delay sign a treaty of friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation among the Sahara states.

To better resist the industrialized countries' blocs, we should do everything to arrive at a viable subregional economic integration. This economic integration should sooner or later be supported by an adequate institutional framework if we want our economies to be complementary and to make us less dependent on the outside by limiting our importation and creating our own market.

We will thus be able to draw greater benefits from our raw materials which continue to depreciate to the advantage of manufactured goods whose prices rise everyday. This is even the sense of the (?fruitful) cooperation of which we should make a fundamental policy by being inspired by the objectives defined by the Lagos summit.

Long live the cooperation and solidarity among Saharan states; long live peace and friendship among people; long live the OAU. [applause]

Mali's Traore

AB281310 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1155 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Speech by Malian President Moussa Traore, current chairman of the conference of heads of state of Saharan countries, at the opening of the sixth summit of Saharan states in Nouakchott -- live]

[Excerpts] Mr President, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen. Allow me to fulfill a pleasant obligation by thanking our brother and friend President Mohammed Khould Ould Haydala, the people and Government of Mauritania for the warm and fraternal reception accorded us and the special attention given us since our arrival on this Mauritanian soil.

Mr President, your country is thus fulfilling its natural duty as a land of crossroads, a crossroads of culture and civilization and a crossroads of people to whom history and geography oblige to fully assume their common destiny in a fraternal, harmonious and united cohabitation.

Mr President, 2 years ago, in March 1980 at Bamako, we solemnly reaffirmed our commitment to pursue the strengthening of our relations of friendship, fraternity, good neighborliness and close cooperation. The conference of Saharan states obviously responds to the frequent desire of our member states to make the Sahara a zone of cooperation and solidarity -- a zone of stability, harmony and peace. In fact, our entity constitutes the natural framework of our peoples expression. And the similarity of problems facing us, our social and cultural affinity as well as the lust and threats from the outside oblige us to tighten the numerous links which unite us. We have therefore naturally agreed to do everything to make our organization an effective instrument of cooperation and consultation.

Today, I am happy to salute the unceasing efforts of one another to make Saharan cooperation more dynamic. Thus, the first ministerial council held in February 1981 in Algiers saw the implementation of important actions. In cooperation, the work undertaken by the various specialized commissions was revived. When our conference adopted in March 1980 the program of economic, technical, cultural and social cooperation, it provided a preferential and efficient instrument for the establishment and intensification of economic cooperation [word indistinct].

The need for concrete cooperation in agriculture, water resources and stockbreeding has become an irrepressible demand to achieve collective self-sufficiency in food. Also, the immensity of the Saharan subregion commands us to harmonize our various national plans in transport and telecommunication in order to end up with a subregional network which offers the best guarantee of security and will be capable of promoting multilateral exchanges. The importance which the sectors of industry, mines, energy, finance and trade raise in the economic development program of the subregion also commits us to further promote exchanges among the states in order to establish commercial circuits to favor the complementarity of our respective economies.

Mr President and dear colleagues, a political declaration we adopted at the Bamako conference constitutes, henceforth, a real charter of fraternity and solidarity among our states.

Convinced that cooperation among states cannot be dissociated from the establishment of a climate of peace and security, we affirmed our adherence to the virtue of dialogue, consultation and negotiation and renewed our commitment to settle peacefully any disputes on the basis of the principles contained in the OAU and UN Charters. We can only express our satisfaction over the atmosphere of friendship, concord and understanding existing among our states and for the upkeep of which you have all remarkably worked. I want to take this opportunity to reaffirm the firm determination of the Republic of Mali to intensify its action for the consolidation of the friendship and harmony among our states and contribute to the realization of the common goals we have set for ourselves.

Mr President and dear colleagues, for 3 years, the situation in Chad and the conflict afflicting this brother country has been totally preoccupying us. In the face of the numerous attempts to undermine the unity and territorial integrity of this brother country, we have never spared our support for the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT]. The Lagos Accords, the fruit of consultations among all Chadian factions, confers on this government international legitimacy. The OAU, renewing its support for the GUNT in its resolution adopted in June 1981 in Nairobi, intensified its action to help the legitimate authorities of that country in their efforts to maintain peace and national unity.

On behalf of all of you, I sincerely thank all the member countries of our conference and all African countries which deemed it their duty to give concrete assistance to the GUNT in its efforts at reconciliation and national reconstruction. More than ever before, it is our duty to continue working at the side of the GUNT for the return of peace in Chad and for the realization of conditions to enable the Chadian people to concentrate fully on the immense task of development.

Mr President, our commitment to make the Sahara subregion a coherent, harmonious and fraternal entity should oblige us to give special attention to the Western Sahara problem. We dare hope that Africa, thanks to its political maturity and wisdom, will be able to surmount the present misunderstanding and the differences to safeguard its unity and serve the supreme interest of our people. As a member country of the OAU implementation committee on the Western Sahara, Mali, as far as it is concerned, will, under all circumstances, fully assume any responsibility entrusted to it.

Long live the conference of the Saharan states; long live African unity. Thank you. [applause]

ALGERIA

BULGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR ECONOMIC TALKS

LD272250 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] The deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee, Kiril Zarev, arrived in Algiers today. He was accompanied by the Bulgarian minister of finance and one of the chairmen of the joint Algerian-Bulgarian committee. They were welcomed at the airport by the minister of planning and national development, Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi.

Kiril Zarev said that his visit to Algiers is a result of arrangements made last June in Sofia by President Chadli Bendjedid and State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov. After expressing delight at being in Algeria, he said that his visit at the invitation of the Algerian Government is a manifestation of the strengthening of multifaceted cooperation between the two countries and will define the ways and means of expanding it. The visit, which is taking place on the eve of the 13th session of the joint Algerian-Bulgarian committee, is an opportunity for both sides to evaluate relations. The Algerian-Bulgarian talks began this afternoon under the chairmanship of Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi and Kiril Zarev.

OBSERVERS SENT TO CHAD AT OAU PRESIDENT'S REQUEST

LD252014 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 25 Mar 82

[Excerpt] A group of 16 Algerian officers and NCO's has been in Chad since 20 March. Having arrived at the request of the acting president of the OAU, the Algerian observers are charged with ensuring the proper operation of the pan-African peace force.

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH CUBA -- Havana, 27 Mar (APS) -- An agricultural cooperation agreement was signed between Algeria and Cuba at the issue of Mr Salim Saadi's, agriculture and agrarian revolution minister, six-day visit to Cuba. The document signed by Mr Saadi and his counterpart Mr Hector Rodriguez Llompart provides for strengthening bilateral cooperation in agriculture field. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1044 GMT 27 Mar 82 LD]

BENDJEDID MEETS SOVIET ENVOY -- Algiers, 25 Mar (APS) -- President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN party secretary general, audienced yesterday in Algiers Mr Vasiliy Nazarovich Rykov, ambassador of Soviet Union to Algiers who handed over to the head of state a message from President Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the CC of the Soviet Communist Party and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. On another turn, President Chadli Bendjedid audienced on the same day in Algiers Mr Abdelhamid Mehri, CC member, president of the "information, cultural, and training" commission of the CC, who presented to the head of state an account on the mission he achieved in Syria, carrier of a message from the president of the republic to president Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Arab Republic of Syria. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1110 GMT 25 Mar 82 LD]

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI CALLS FOR SUPPORT FOR W. BANK

LD271004 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0920 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Mar (JANA) The brother leader of the revolution sent a cable to Arab presidents and kings. The following is the text of the cable:

What is happening on the West Bank of the Jordan River in occupied Palestine against unarmed Arab citizens, and the acts of mistreatment and eviction which have reached the point of massacres, is another insult to be added to a series of degrading insults by Israel to the submissive Arab nation.

It would be frustrating to the will of the Arab masses in the occupied territory to hear from us more expressions of denunciation and condemnation which have no meaning except to be part of an Arab comedy.

It is a duty and a defense of honor before the world that we transform this daring uprising into a popular liberation war; that we break the barriers that are separating us from the Arab masses in the occupied territory and build bridges across all the Arab borders to the occupied territory so that we can join with them physically.

If the Arab rulers are unable to carry out their duty, as is certainly the case, then we have to, at least, give our material capabilities to the Palestinian resistance to enable it to help the residents of the West Bank who are facing U.S. and Israeli terrorism and their racist crusader savagery and barbarism.

AL-QADHDHAFI ATTENDS NAVAL COMMISSIONING

LD281944 Tripoli JANA in English 1914 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Gulf of Sidra, 28 Mar (JANA) -- The revolution's leader and supreme commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi today attended a ceremony by the Libyan Navy in the Gulf of Sidra in which new naval vessels joined the fleet as part of festivities marking the 12th anniversary of the evacuation of British bases from Libya. The ceremony was also attended by the Libyan Armed Forces Chief of Staff brigadier Mustapha Kharrubi, the navy chief of staff, and other officers.

The naval forces saluted Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and chanted revolutionary slogans affirming the Libyan people's readiness to defend their revolution and its giant accomplishments.

After the inspection of the new naval vessels by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, a giant march was organised in support of the Great Al Fateh Revolution and its accomplishments and to affirm the historic character of the revolution.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA SENDS MESSAGE, ASKS SUPPORT

LD261944 Tripoli JANA in English 1749 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 26 Mar (JANA) -- Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of Al-Fatah Revolution, has received a message from Mr. Daniel Ortega, member of the Sandinista Command Council and coordinator of the National Salvation Council. He said that in case the U.N. Security Councils fails to take firm measures against the U.S. provocations then Nicaragua will strongly fight back any attack on its territories.

He appealed to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to contact the non-aligned countries to mobilize solidarity with Nicaragua.

FARMERS HOLD MEETING WITH POLISH DELEGATION

LD281048 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0815 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Mar (JANA) -- The general secretariat of the farmers trade union federation in the jamahiriyah held a meeting last night with a delegation from the farmers union of the Peoples Republic of Poland, at the premises of the farmers federation in Tripoli.

The meeting was devoted to discussions on the possibilities of cooperation between the farmers trade union federation of the jamahiriyah and the Polish farmers union, and to working out programs for the future aimed at strengthening cooperation in the service of the common interests of the two friendly countries.

The brother secretary general of the jamahiriyah farmers federation briefed the guest delegation in detail on the achievements in the domain of agriculture thanks to the great 1 September Revolution.

TUNISIA

OPPOSITION GROUPS ISSUE STATEMENT ON FREEDOMS

PM261357 Paris LE MONDE in French 24 Mar 82 p 6

["M.D." dispatch]

[Text] Tunis -- For the first time the principal Tunisian opposition groups have managed to agree on a joint statement, which they issued Monday 22 March, on the 26th anniversary of independence, celebrated 2 days earlier. Nevertheless, it does not amount to the creation of a front: it is simply a number of specific stances on various issues of joint concern.

The document, signed in order by the Movement of Social Democrats, the Communist Party, the Popular Unity Movement (a group led by former Economy Minister Ahmed Ben Salah) and members of the Islamic Tendency Movement, calls for "an improvement of the political climate" through the revoking of unconstitutional laws, the ending of political trials, the introduction of civil liberties, the release of political prisoners and the return of Tunisians living abroad, particularly Ahmad Ben Salah. To this end, it demands the introduction of a law granting a general amnesty "without exceptions," the recognition of political movements still seeking official registration, authorization for banned or new newspapers to publish and the revision of the press law.

The opposition has already tried several times over the past 2 years to reach a joint stance, though always unsuccessfully. The statement just released seems to establish a minimal platform with respect to problems concerning human rights and public freedoms. But the existing differences of approach, often fundamental, among the various groups in the economic and social fields seem to rule out any broader agreement at present.

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PDRY COUNTERPART

EA262034 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] and of COPWE [Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, today received a message from Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee of the YSP, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and prime minister of the PDRY.

The message from Comrade 'Ali Nasir was delivered to Comrade Chairman Mengistu by Comrade Salim Salih Muhammad, foreign minister of democratic Yemen and member of the Central Committee of the YSP, when he received him in audience here in Addis Ababa.

Comrade Salim Salih said on the occasion that the people, party and government of the PDRY view with great pride and admiration the Ethiopian popular revolution. He said his country wholeheartedly supports socialist Ethiopia's multipurpose "Red Star" revolutionary campaign in Eritrea region, and expressed the PDRY's confidence that the campaign would achieve its objectives in the political, military, economic and social fields.

Noting that the people, party and government of the PDRY believe that crushing secessionists was one of the main concerns of the multipurpose "Red Star" campaign, Comrade Salim Salih said that the treacherous bandits have been rejected everywhere and that they were bound to vanish like dust.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu on his part assured the PDRY foreign minister that the friendly relations between the two sisterly countries would be further developed and strengthened.

ERITREAN RESISTANCE GROUPS TO MEET IN TUNIS

NC201552 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 20 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, Qatar, 20 Mar (AFP) -- Rival Eritrean resistance movements will meet in Tunis soon under the auspices of the Arab League to discuss ways of working together against Ethiopian attacks, Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) leader Osman Saleh Sebi said here.

In a statement released here during a tour of the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council -- Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qutar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates -- Mr Sebi said the meeting would cover the various aspects of coordination and cooperation to enable the groups to meet Ethiopia "politically and militarily."

The other main group in the fight to make Ethiopia's province of Eritrea independent is the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF).

The ELF is now thought to be almost inactive in the war, having been eliminated by its rival, rather than the Ethiopians.

The Eritrean separatists consider themselves Arab -- which Ethiopia denies -- and are backed by the Arab League.

The EFL leader accused Ethiopia in his statement of trying to "abolish the Arab language and the Koranic religion in Eritrea and isolate the country culturally from the Arabi-Islamic nation."

KENYA

CHADIAN, INDONESIAN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE 28 MAR

EA281640 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] A three-man Chadian delegation arrived in Nairobi this morning with a message from the Chadian president for his Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, the current chairman of the OAU. The delegation, led by Mr Mahamat Nour Adam, the secretary general in the Chadian Government, comprises Mr Barma Ramadene, the permanent representative of Chad in the United Nations in New York and Mr (Ndoyorengal) and (Denaral Ndibele), a roving ambassador in Ndjamena.

Another three-man delegation from Indonesia also arrived in Nairobi this morning to establish a resident embassy. Previously, the Indonesian ambassador accredited to Kenya was in Dar Es Salaam.

Meanwhile, the South Korean minister of state for national security, foreign affairs and sports, Mr (Ro Woo), left Nairobi this morning for Lesotho after a day's stop-over.

SOMALIA

ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ROMANIA

EA230208 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 22 Mar 82

[Text] The Somali Democratic Republic and Romania today signed an agreement at the Ministry of Commerce Building in Mogadishu on the promotion of trade and cooperation in the fields of mineral resources, agriculture, livestock and fisheries. The agreement was signed by Minister of Commerce Challe Mohamed Umar Jama on behalf of the Somali Democratic Republic and by First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Comrade Ion Nicolae for Romania. During their talks the ministers discussed the need for economic cooperation between Somalia and Romania and the best way to implement [words indistinct]. Present on the occasion were the adviser to the Ministry of National Planning, (Challe Yusuf Ali Usman), the director general of the Ministry of Commerce, Challe [name indistinct] and officials from various departments.

TANZANIA

NYERERE SUSPENDS ALL NEW DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

AB261443 Paris AFP in English 1424 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Dar Es Salaam, 26 March (AFP) -- Tanzania, plagued by an unprecedented economic crisis due to an extreme shortage of foreign exchange, has suspended all new development projects proposed for next year.

President Julius Nyerere, announcing the move yesterday (Thursday) in Dodoma, in Central Tanzania, said policies during the 1982-83 fiscal year would be aimed at consolidating and rehabilitating existing projects to enable the country to fight off the widespread scarcity of goods and services.

It would be economically unwise to initiate new projects when key industries were operating below capacity, Mr Nyerere said.

The little foreign currency the country would earn next year would be used to pay for spare parts and other essentials, he said.

Countries giving money to Tanzania have been asked to divert their funds from the proposed new projects to salvage projects already underway, he said. Tanzania's foreign exchange problem, which began to surface in 1974, has been aggravated by rising fuel import bills and bad weather.

This year's fuel bill is expected to consume about 60 percent of the country's foreign exchange earnings while about 1,000 million shillings (100 million U.S. dollars) would be used for food imports to off-set an anticipated food shortage caused by last year's poor crop. The 1978-79 Ugandan war also contributed to the country's economic problems.

President Nyerere, on a week-long tour of the Dodoma region, stressed to party and government leaders the importance of modern farming techniques and urged agricultural experts to help peasants increase production in an on-going campaign for food self-sufficiency.

He said it may not be possible to provide every village in the country with a tractor, but it was feasible for all villages to buy cattle. The peasants would be able to produce a food surplus if they were taught how to handle oxen-driven ploughs, shown farming methods and had good weather, he said.

TANZANIAN PARTY PAPER ON WEST SAHARA, OAU UNITY

EA281642 Dar Es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 0400 GMT 28 Mar 82

[From the editorial review]

[Text] The party newspaper [MZALENDO] begins its editorial by saying: When the OAU heads of state summit took place in Nairobi, Kenya, last year, there were good omens among OAU member states to widen the scope of solidarity in an effort to seek a just solution of problems confronting the African continent. The paper says one of the moving events manifested by the OAU's genuine existence was how the summit agreed to adopt Africa's candidate for the UN secretary general elections.

The party organ says: For the first time Africa chose her candidate who was supported by all OAU member states. The summit also adopted other resolutions which showed the spirit of strengthening the OAU and, indeed, its charter.

The paper continues its editorial by noting that nonetheless for the past few years there has been attempt [as heard] seeking to weaken understanding prevailing among African independent states, the situation which is a threat to OAU member states if left untackled. The paper says enemies of Africa took a chance to disrupt the OAU and its charter, when the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic was allowed officially to be the 51st member of the OAU in a meeting of its council of ministers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, last month. MZALENDO says we are currently hearing groundless rumors in an attempt to convince some of African heads of state to stop participating in the forthcoming OAU heads of state summit, which will take place in Tripoli, Libya, later this year. Again reasons given are baseless but repeated songs of imperialist maneuvers. For the Western Sahara issue or any other affair pertaining to Africa the paper says, the only way for Africa to solve the problem is not to follow imperialist advices [as heard] but to embark on the OAU charter.

The paper ends its editorial by noting that the OAU will commit an unforgivable sin if enemies of Africa are allowed to use our differences to disrupt the unity of Africa.

GHANA

RAWLINGS SAYS CIA, FRENCH PLOTTING AGAINST HIM

AB261605 Paris AFP in English 1558 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 26 March (AFP) -- New Ghanian leader Jerry Rawlings has accused the American and French secret services of plotting to get rid of him.

In an interview with the weekly JEUNE AFRIQUE magazine published here today, Flight-Lieutenant Rawlings also said that former leaders of Ghana found guilty of "economic crimes" would have to pay for them. Civilian President Hilla Limann, ousted in a military coup on New Year's eve, committed "not only mistakes but crimes," Fl.-Lt. Rawlings said.

He said that secret services in most West African countries were put there to prevent the co-ordination of revolutionary activity. But since they failed in Ghana they had stepped up plots aimed at his "elimination," Fl.-Lt. Rawlings said, naming the American Central Intelligence Agency.

Libya and the Soviet Union, however, may be "truly sincere" in their stand towards Ghana, he said.

He said that most Ghanian leaders arrested after the coup had since been released for "strictly humanitarian reasons." But others, whose cases were more suspect, would likely be sent to court following an investigation by a committee, and would have to pay for their economic crimes if they are found guilty, he said.

Former leaders, who had paraded themselves as nationalists, have made Ghanians suffer, Fl.-Lt. Rawlings said, re-affirming his determination to rid Ghana of corruption.

He said there was an urgent need to bring back discipline and to make Ghana self-sufficient in food.

LIBERIA

G. BACCUS MATTHEWS APPOINTED TO HEAD CABINET

AB261643 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] The former minister of foreign affairs, the Honorable G. Baccus Matthews, has been appointed director general of the Cabinet by head of state CIC [Commander in Chief] Samuel Kanyon Doe.

The Liberian leader indicated that his appointment of Mr Matthews, which takes effect immediately, is based on his humanitarian feelings toward all Liberians. He noted that Mr Matthews was one of those revolutionary leaders for whom he and the members of the council risked their lives. CIC Doe hoped that Mr Matthews would accept his new assignment with greater zeal and determination to help bring progress and development to our nation.

Mr Matthews' assignment at the executive mansion takes on the functions of a full minister responsible to the head of state. He will handle all matters of the council and other important tasks the commander in chief finds necessary to assign to him. Since May 1980, the functions of chief of the Cabinet have been assigned to deputy minister for public affairs, Capt Willie A. Gittens. The head of state said this change will provide Captain Gittens the opportunity to devote all time to his office.

Meanwhile, Capt Patick Minikon, adviser on national security, has been appointed deputy minister of state in charge of national security. His responsibility includes the supervision of the National Security Agency and report activities directly to the head of state.

NIGERIA

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT'S VISIT

Museum, Port Toured

AB261648 Lagos NAN in English 1630 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Lagos, 26 March (NAN) -- The Yugoslav president, Mr. Sergej Kraigher, today visited the national museum and the Tin Can Island port complex in Lagos.

The director of the museum, Dr. Eyo Ekpo, told the Yugoslav leader that most of the Bini works of art carried away during the 1897 British expedition were yet to be returned to the country.

Mr. Kraigher was also shown the car in which the late military head of state, General Murtala Mohammed, was assassinated.

Before leaving for the Tin Can Island port, Mr Kraigher at the quarter-master jetty marina. [sentence as received] At the port, he was driven round the various sections of the complex. Explaining how the port was planned, the acting general manager, Mr Don Opara, said that the Tin Can Island port had 10 berths, each of which was 25 metres long. He added that the port was self-sufficient in water and power supply.

Talks Conclude

AB262134 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] President Shehu Shagari and the Yugoslav leader, Mr Kraigher, concluded their talks today at the State House, Ribaudi Road. A communique will be issued on the tomorrow shortly before the Yugoslav president leaves Lagos at the end of his 4-day state visit to Nigeria. A state banquet by President Shehu Shagari in honor of the Yugoslav president is being held tonight in Lagos.

Speeches Made at Banquet

AB261738 Lagos NAN in English 1715 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] Lagos, 26 March (NAN) -- President Shehu Shagari this evening in Lagos called on member states of the Non-Aligned Movement to intensify efforts to arrest the growing arms race between the two world super powers.

President Shagari made the call at a state banquet in honour of the president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Mr. Sergej Kraigher, who is currently on a four-day state visit to Nigeria.

President Shagari said that the Non-Aligned Movement, to which Nigeria and Yugoslavia belong, had proved itself to be the only genuine alternative to the policy of total bloc division of the world.

He stressed the need for more co-operation among member countries of the movement so that we can present to the world a stronger and more united voice.

President Shagari observed that the on-going test of strength between the two super powers was progressing at a faster pace and in more alarming dimensions. He declared: The intensification of the cold war and arms race and the continued attacks against the independence and freedom of smaller nations by the big powers as well as the widening gap between the industrialised and developing countries give no hope for the maintenance of international peace and security. President Shagari commended the Yugoslavia Government for assisting liberation movements in Africa and asserted that Nigeria stood firm by its commitment to seeing that every inch of the African soil was politically and economically emancipated.

President Kraigher said that Europe had become the biggest arsenal of the most destructive weapons in the world.

He said that the introduction of new generations of weapons by the super powers created new dangers to the world.

He said that the Non-Aligned Movement was the only force capable of ensuring the universal application of detente to secure prospects for the future of all countries.

Prsident Kraigher suggested that a concrete programme of negotiations for disarmament should be adopted to halt the current arms race.

Trade Agreement Signed

LD271238 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Nigeria and Yugoslavia have signed a trade agreement in Lagos. This followed talks in the Nigerian capital during the state visit of President Sergej Kraigher of Yugoslavia. The communique issued shortly before the Yugoslav leader left Lagos today at the end of his visit says that bilateral relations between the two countries were reviewed in detail. President Shagari and President Kraigher noted with satisfaction that their relations are developed to the mutual benefit of the countries and that there existed all the necessary conditions for the further promotion of cooperation in all areas. They agreed to broaden and diversify their economic cooperation, especially in agriculture, industry and the construction of infrastructural projects. The two leaders also emphasized the need to develop mixed enterprises, joint ventures and industrial production as well as scientific and technical cooperation involving the transfer of technology.

On the international situation they expressed concern over the serious threat to world peace and security and blamed the situation on conflicts of interest and rivalry between the great power blocs.

Communique Issued

AB271300 Lagos NAN in English 1230 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Lagos, March 27 (NAN) -- Nigeria and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia today appealed to Iran and Iraq to resolve their differences and accept mediation in the spirit of the Non-Aligned Movement.

In a joint communique in Lagos at the end of the four-day state visit by the Yugoslav president, Mr Segej Kraigher, both countries believed that the war between Iraq and Iran was not in the interest of the movement.

They agreed that the removal of such obstacles would be a major contribution to the success of the forthcoming 7th summit meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement scheduled for Baghdad later this year.

Both countries expressed the hope that the warring countries would agree to stop active hostilities in the month before and the month after the Baghbad summit as a gesture of good will to the Non-Aligned Movement, pending lasting solution to the crisis.

Both President Shehu Shagari and Mr. Kraigher condemned the racist regime in South Africa for its illegal occupation of Namibia despite the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly and the International Court of Justice.

The two presidents reiterated their full support and assistance to SWAPO as the authentic representative of the people of Namibia, and agreed that the international community should take effective measures to pressurise the regime in South Africa to ensure the Namibian independence before the end of 1982.

Both countries also expressed keen interest in broadening the economic co-operation between them, especially in agriculture, industry and the construction of infrastructural projects.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO SAYS PEACE TALKS COULD BE ADJOURNED

AB261538 Luanda ANGOP in French 1138 GMT 26 Mar 82

[Text] London, 26 Mar (ANGOP) -- The unfair and ambiguous electoral system proposed by the Western countries as a solution for the Namibian problem, and categorically rejected by SWAPO, has caused a new deadlock in the talks on a negotiated independence for Namibia. The West wants to impose on the people of Namibia a system that has never been used in the entire history of the colonization of mankind, and which would mean introducing a neocolonial system indirectly controlled by the racist Pretoria regime.

The SWAPO representatives in London said that the present deadlock, which may be entirely attributed to the continued delaying tactics adopted by members of the Contact Group in collusion with South Africa, is so serious "that it might lead to an adjournment of the talks." "If the West and South Africa refuse to accept the system of vote, Hidepo Hamutenya, SWAPO's spokesman, said "we, SWAPO, will have to go to the UN Security Council to explain that its efforts to find a negotiated settlement have failed."

According to the London newspaper THE GUARDIAN, the electoral system proposed for the formation of the Namibian "constituent assembly" requires the population of this territory -- who are mostly illiterate -- to choose the candidates on ballot papers with seven columns by giving two votes, one to each candidate and the other for a party.

The SWAPO, the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia, says this is absolutely unacceptable and, in fact, why should Namibia serve as a testing ground for this type of so-called electoral experiment which is basically aimed at guaranteeing the representation for the puppet tribal parties? The discussion of the proposal on the electoral system is one of the points of the first phase of a timetable presented by the "five" and which is aimed at the signing of the agreements scheduled for the end of 1982.

The aim of this plan denounced by SWAPO and the world progressive community, consists solely in impeding the liberation struggle led by SWAPO and delaying "with deliberate slowness" the independence of this territory. This new deadlock also proves the difficulties that the plan itself poses. In the so-called second "phase," other obstructions could also arise.

The declaration of a cease-fire, which would in principle follow the end of the first phase, would imply the gradual withdrawal of South African troops to a specific point; the dispatch and installation of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group [UNTAG], the return of the Namibian exiles and the release of political prisoners. At the same time, there would be the electoral census, the registration of voters and the establishment of polling places. All this would take place in the very short space of 7 months.

At present, as indicated by SWAPO's response to the Western electoral system, the experience of the past 5 months during which "Phase I" was discussed, has convinced public opinion that the system of negotiations by phases falls in perfectly with the racists' delaying tactics.

These are reflected in the consolidation of the increasing military presence in Namibia and in the neocolonial policy of Bantustanization, while at the same time expressing "good faith" and readiness to negotiate.

In the text of the statement to the Western group, the Namibian liberation movement, it will be recalled, showed its readiness for the immediate convening of a conference between SWAPO and the Pretoria authorities to accelerate the process of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 in a short period and without any amendments. However, Pretoria continues with its destabilizing activities, its attacks and aggression against Angola and other frontline countries while announcing to the world its bellicose intentions in a context of political and diplomatic action and propaganda.

The deadlock in the talks on Namibia, the announcement of measures for increased military recruitment in South Africa and the rise in military expenditure in this country constitute further evidence that preparations are being made to escalate aggression against the People's Republic of Angola. As we know, however, it was not only the military situation that caused the withdrawal of the French from Algeria, the Americans from Vietnam or the Portuguese from their former colonial empire.

SOUTH AFRICA

ARMSCORP COMMANDANT ON NEW ARTILLERY PIECE

LD281220 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Mar 82

[Text] The South African Armaments Manufacturing Corporation has lifted the veil of secrecy around the development of a new South African 155-mm artillery system, the G-5. Its range is reported to be 40 percent greater than any similar 155-mm system in the world. It is also reported to be more accurate and could carry nuclear warheads. In an interview with a Sunday newspaper, the chairman of Armscor, Commandant P.G. Marais said South Africa had been able to circumvent the international arms embaro. Arms (?theory) tests had been conducted in Canada through a Canadian affiliate. During 1979 South African weapons systems had been tested on the Caribbean island of Antigua, then a British colony.

Commandant Marais was commenting on a report drawn up by the staff of the Africa Sub-Committee of the American House of Representatives. The report, released in Washington last week, said that the CIA, the U.S. Army and the State Department must have relaxed the rules to let South Africa bypass the UN arms embargo. It is also alleged that a CIA agent had dealt directly with South African arms officials and helped to plan illicit shipments of arms between 1976 and 1978.

Commandant Marais strongly denied that Armscor had ever knowingly been involved with the CIA or any other foreign agencies. He said that in the war in Angola in 1975 South Africa had realized that it did not have the right artillery to meet the demands of modern warfare. A local investigation was consequently undertaken and it was decided that an updated version of the 155-mm gun was needed. No one, he said, was willing to supply South Africa with such a weapon so that it was decided to produce it locally. Local weapons experts had a number of excellent but unproved ideas, and overseas technology, mainly a special computer, was needed to check calculations about a super-gun, as he put it. The computer tests were conducted in Canada in 1979, and as a result of the move into the heavy artillery industry, South Africa has now produced a weapons system that no enemy could disregard.

Commandant Marais said that he personally believed that there was at present an outcry of the United States over South Africa because people refused to believe that a country such as South Africa could produce a 155-mm weapon which, as he put it, made their systems look like toys.

ZIMBABWE

GOVERNMENT UNCOVERS S. AFRICAN 'SPY RING'

CA290628 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Mar 82

[Text] The minister of state in the prime minister's office, Comrade Mnangagwa, revealed yesterday that the government has uncovered a South African spy ring operating in Zimbabwe. He said three men, all former white members of the Central Intelligence Organisation, CIO, have been arrested. Comrade Mnangagwa said two of these men are to appear in court soon.

He named the boss of the spy network as Mr Joseph Price, who fled the country in January and is now living in apartheid-ruled South Africa. Mr Price had been director of (?close) security with the department of the prime minister. An order by the minister of home affairs, Comrade Ushewokunze, in last Friday's government gazette stated that Mr Price's property had been forfeited to the state in terms of the emergency powers for seizure of enemy property regulations.

HERALD CALLS FOR ARREST OF JOSHUA NKOMO

AB271220 Paris AFP in English 1127 GMT 27 Mar 82

[Text] Salisbury, March 27 (AFP) -- The semi-governmental newspaper, THE HERALD, today called for the arrest of minority leader Joshua Nkomo and harshly critized his party for containing "lawless elements" creating chaos in the southwestern part of the country.

In an editorial comment on the "men of violence," THE HERALD accused Mr Nkomo and his Patriotic Front (PF) party of planning a war against Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's majority government. The paper alleged that the PF hid massive quantities of arms because "they wanted to be ready for a full-scale civil war should there be a breakdown of law and order. In other words, they wanted to be ready to grab their slice of the country."

THE HERALD also accused Mr Nkomo followers of responsibility for a double murder last week and for the spate of armed robberies in Matabeleland, the southwestern part of the country where Mr Nkomo's Ndebele-speaking supporters are concentrated.

The situation in Matabeleland has reached "grave proportions," THE HERALD said. "What really surprises us is that Dr. Nkomo has not been arrested along with others for what his lawless elements are doing to law abiding citizens. It seems inconceivable that these arms caches could have been hidden without his personal knowledge."

Meanwhile, government officials announced that it had identified some 200 of Mr Nkomo's followers who had masqueraded as former guerrilla fighters to qualify for monthly salaries from the government. More phony guerrillas from Mr. Nkomo's group would be discovered in the future, they said.

There has been a growing amount of trouble surrounding the men of Mr. Nkomo's former guerrilla army, ZIPRA, which has now been disbanded with many of the men joining the National Army and others receiving monthly salaries for leaving the army as part of the demobilization scheme.